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DANIEL ACUÑA
CHRIS SPROUSE
KARL STORY

BLACK PANTHER



*"Some of Coates'
best scripting in
comics so far."*

— ComicBook.com

THE INTERGALACTIC EMPIRE OF WAKANDA
PART THREE

MARVEL

BLACK PANTHER

THE INTERGALACTIC
EMPIRE OF WAKANDA

PART THREE





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COVER ART

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BLACK PANTHER CREATED BY



THE INTERGALACTIC EMPIRE OF WAKANDA

TWO THOUSAND YEARS AGO, A DETACHMENT OF WAKANDANS ESTABLISHED A SPRAWLING EMPIRE ON THE OUTER EDGES OF THE COSMOS.



AGAINST THIS ACQUISITIVE POWER, THERE ROSE A REBELLION OF EX-SLAVES.



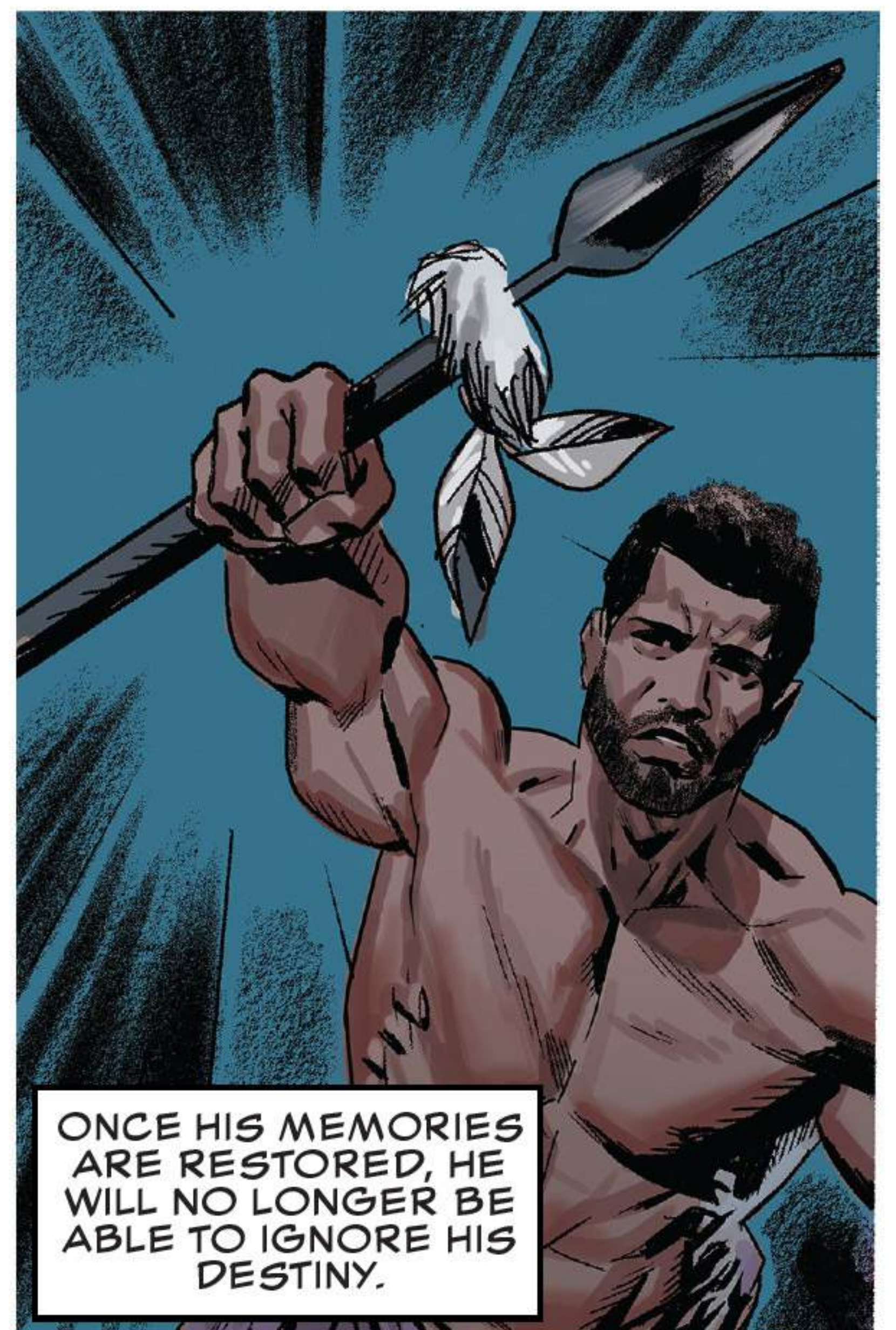
THEY LIBERATED A GREAT CHAMPION FROM THE EMPIRE'S VIBRANIUM MINES.



ONE WHOM THE GODDESS BAST HAS NAMED HER AVATAR. A FIGHTER OF MYTHIC PROPORTION.

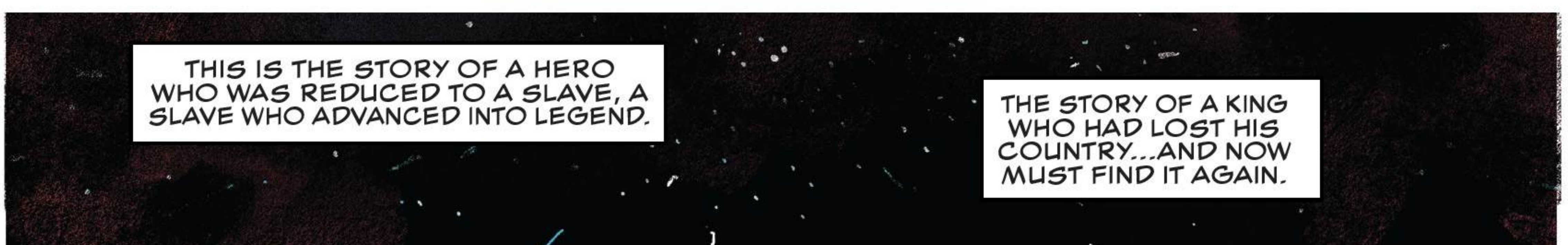


ONCE HIS MEMORIES ARE RESTORED, HE WILL NO LONGER BE ABLE TO IGNORE HIS DESTINY.

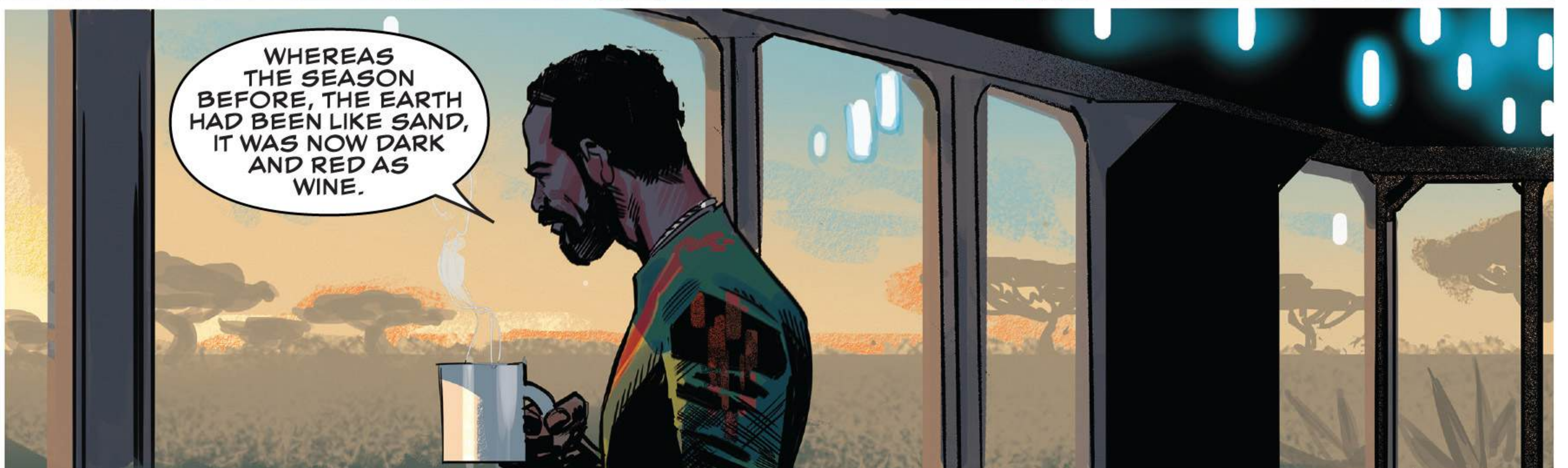


THIS IS THE STORY OF A HERO WHO WAS REDUCED TO A SLAVE, A SLAVE WHO ADVANCED INTO LEGEND.

THE STORY OF A KING WHO HAD LOST HIS COUNTRY...AND NOW MUST FIND IT AGAIN.



ALKAMA FIELDS, WAKANDA PRIME [EARTH].

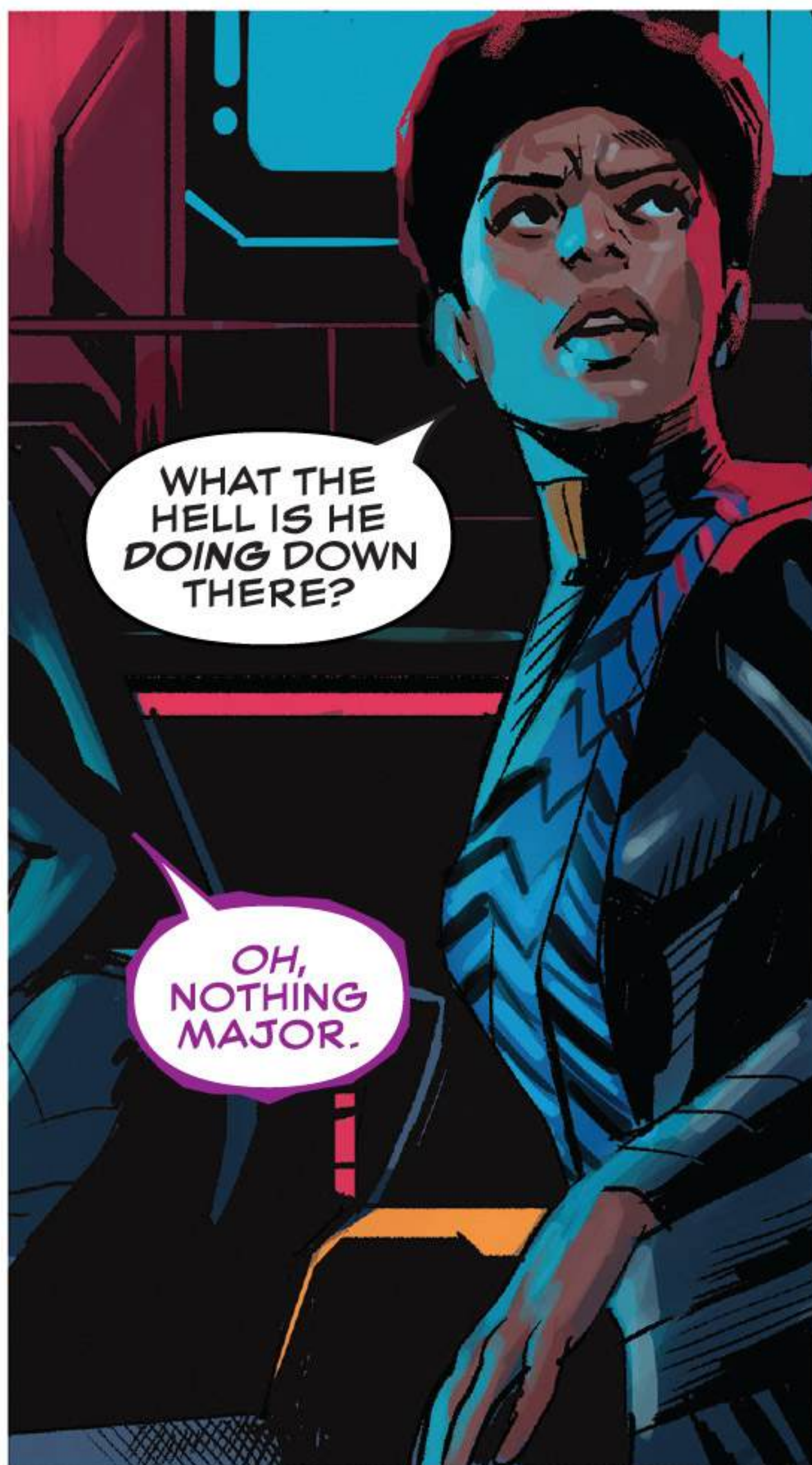
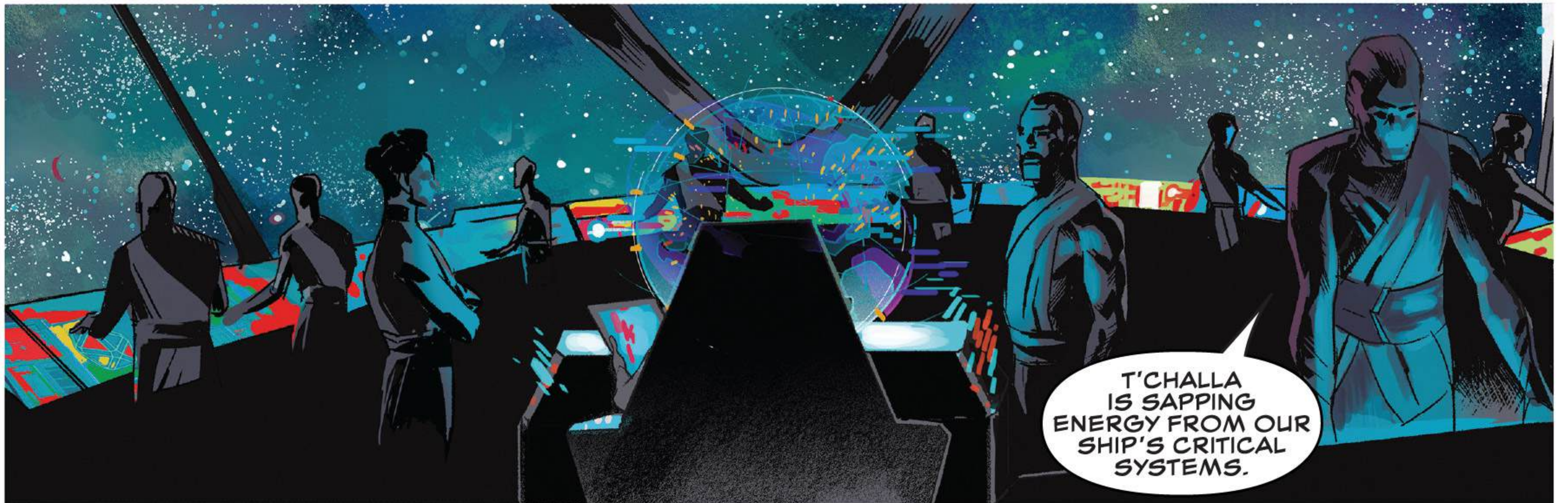


*THE WAKANDAN NAME FOR STORM. --WIL





**STARSHIP MACKANDAL,
INTERGALACTIC WAKANDA.**

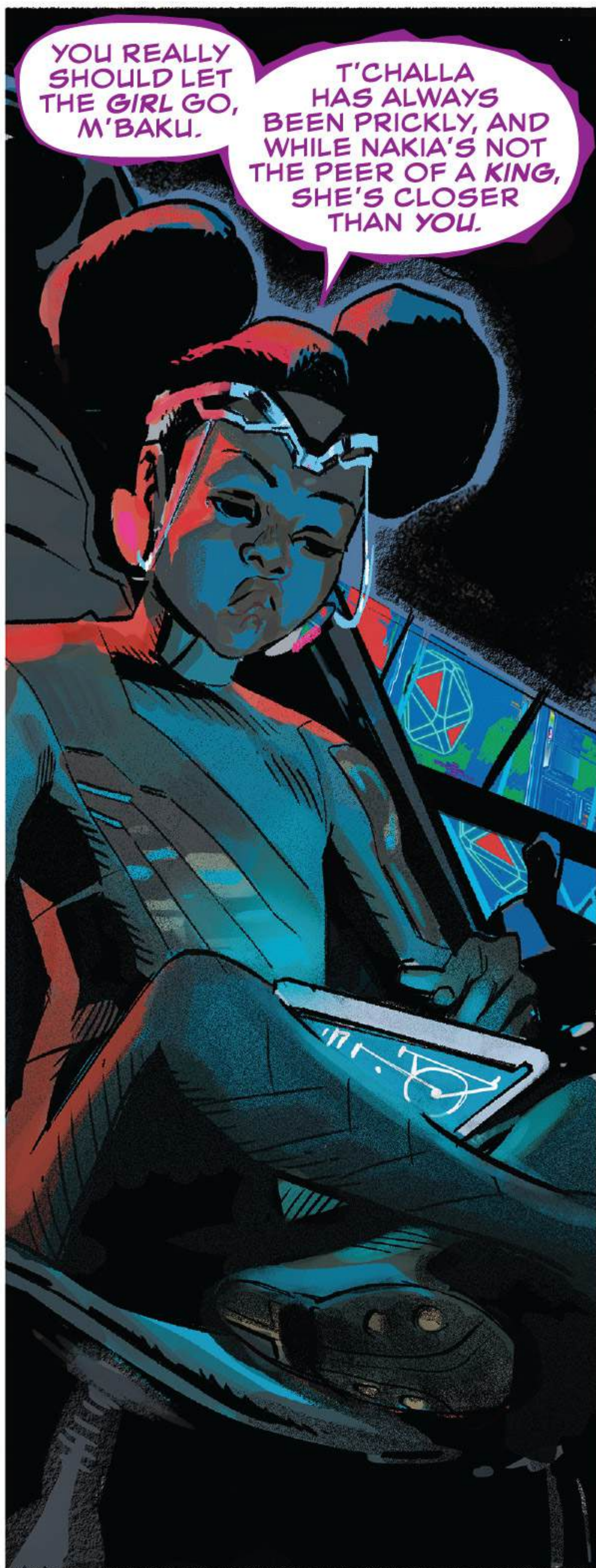




I'LL GO TALK TO HIM.

NO, NAKIA!

I'LL DO IT THIS TIME.

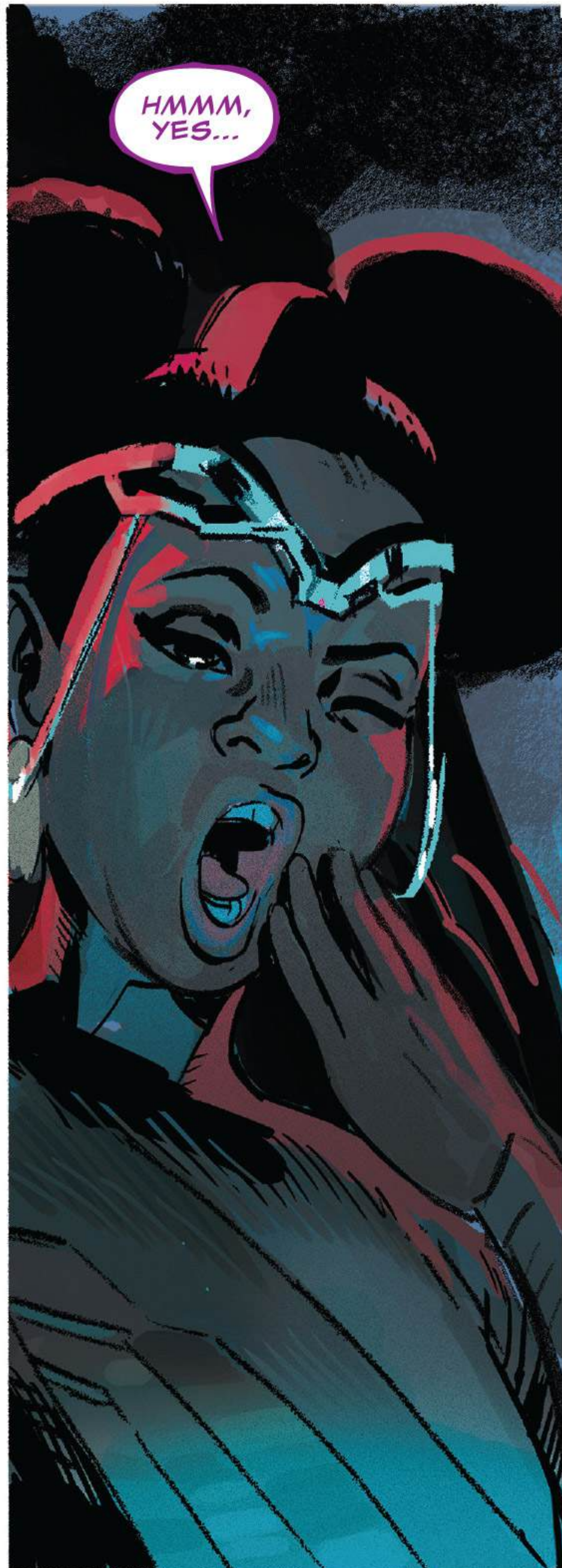


YOU REALLY SHOULD LET THE GIRL GO, M'BAKU.

T'CHALLA HAS ALWAYS BEEN PRICKLY, AND WHILE NAKIA'S NOT THE PEER OF A KING, SHE'S CLOSER THAN YOU.



ON THE MACKANDAL, BAST, WE ARE ALL PEERS. WE ARE ALL EQUALS.



HMMM, YES...



...BUT SOME ARE MORE EQUAL THAN OTHERS, NO?



TAIFA
NGAO: INCREASE
THE VARIABLE
REFRACTION BY
TWO PERCENT.

ADJUSTING.

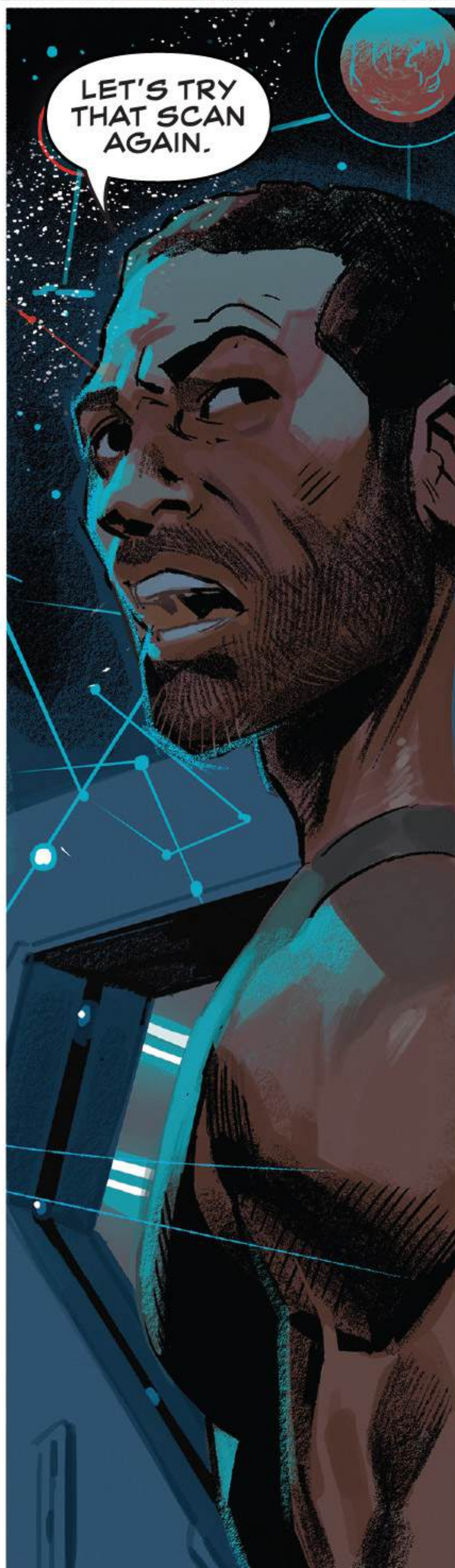


SCANNING...
SCANNING...



NEGATIVE.

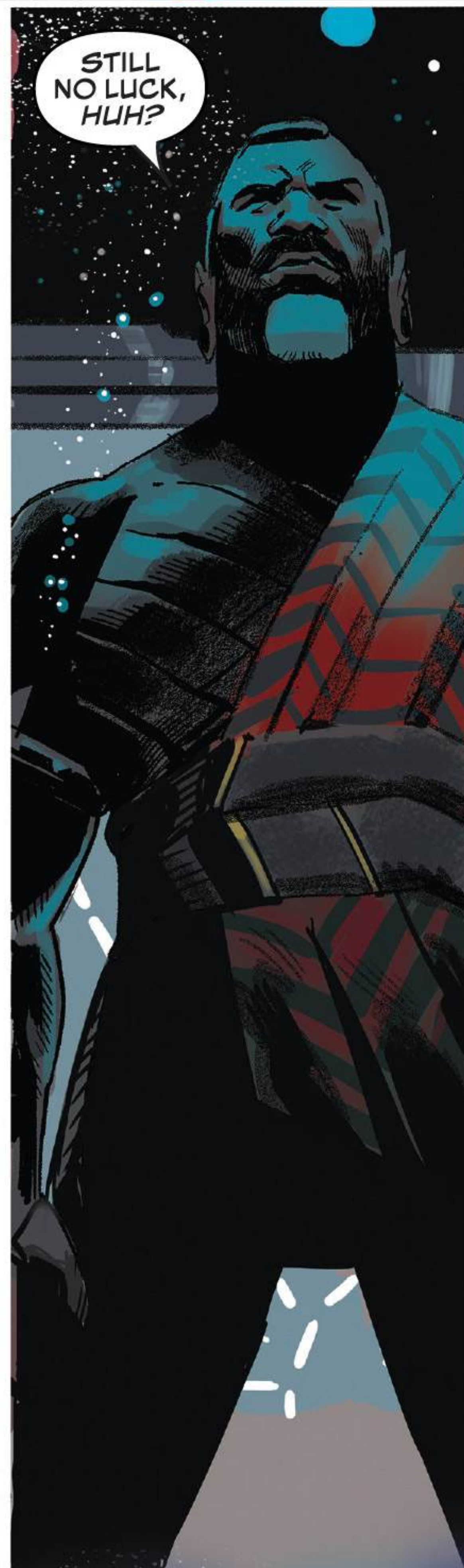
DAMMIT.



LET'S TRY
THAT SCAN
AGAIN.



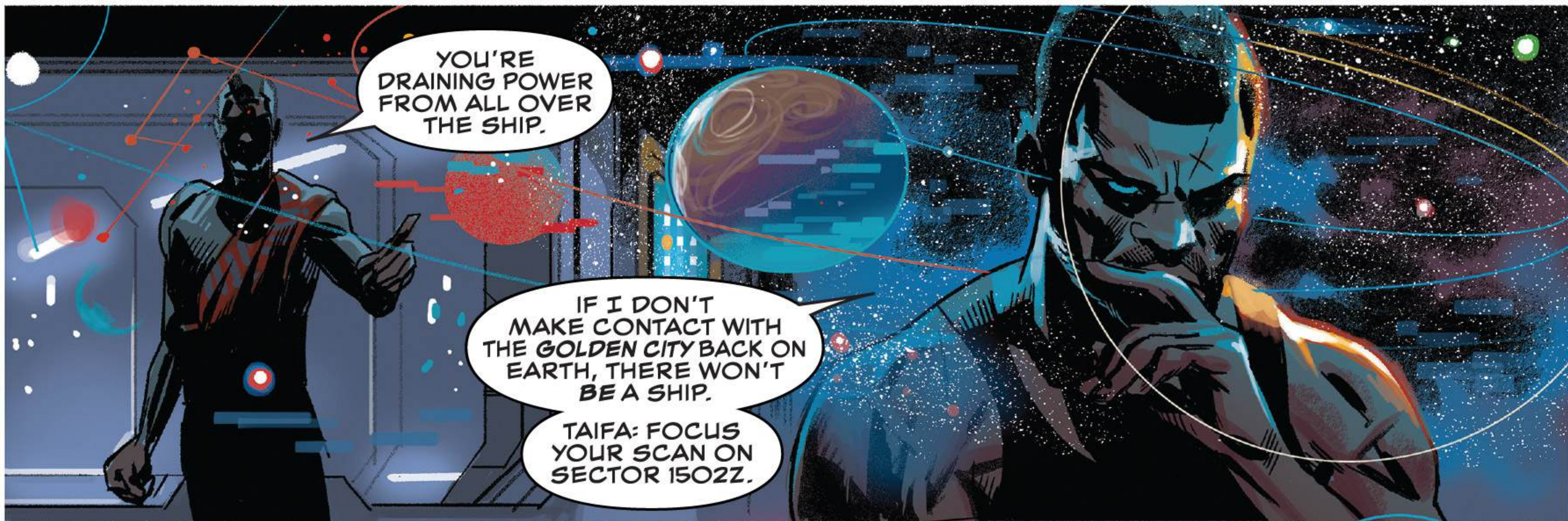
I'M
WORKING,
M'BAKU.



STILL
NO LUCK,
HUH?



TAIFA:
THIS TIME
DIMINISH THE
REFRACTION
ONE HALF
PERCENT.

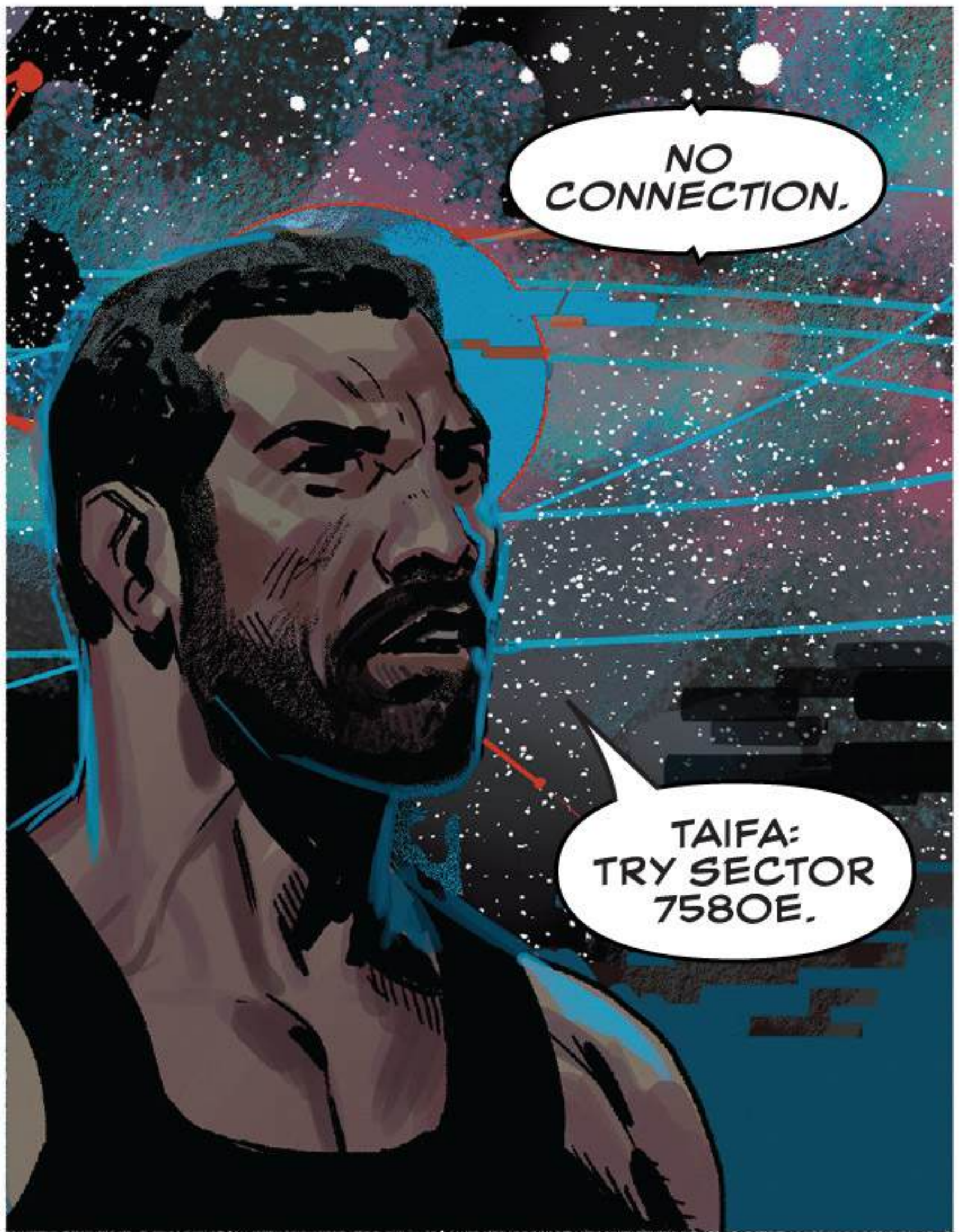




NO.
NOW IF
YOU'LL EXCUSE
ME--

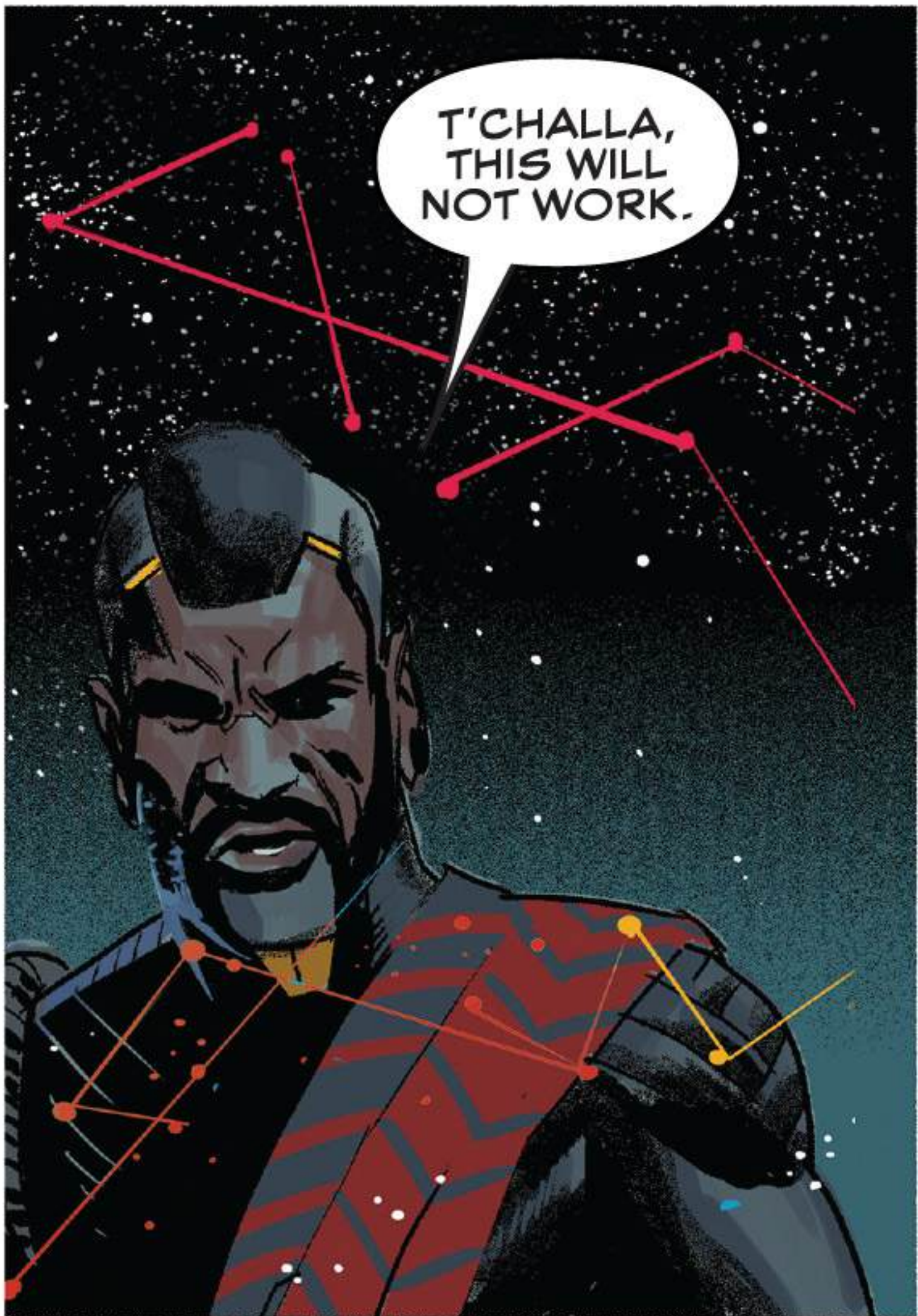


I CAN'T
DO THAT.



NO
CONNECTION.

TAIFA:
TRY SECTOR
7580E.



T'CHALLA,
THIS WILL
NOT WORK.



IT WILL IF
YOU LET ME
ALONE.

THAT'S
NOT WHAT
I MEAN.



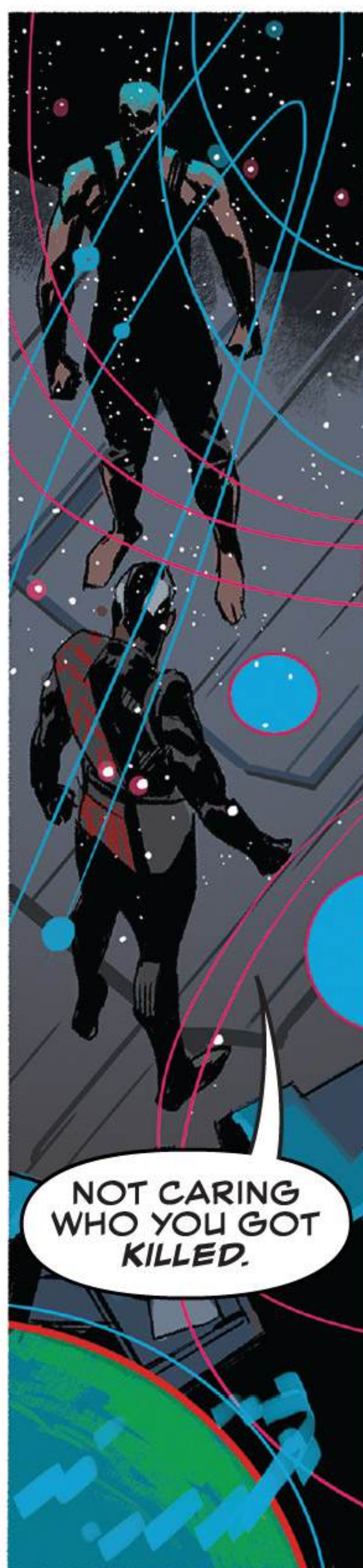
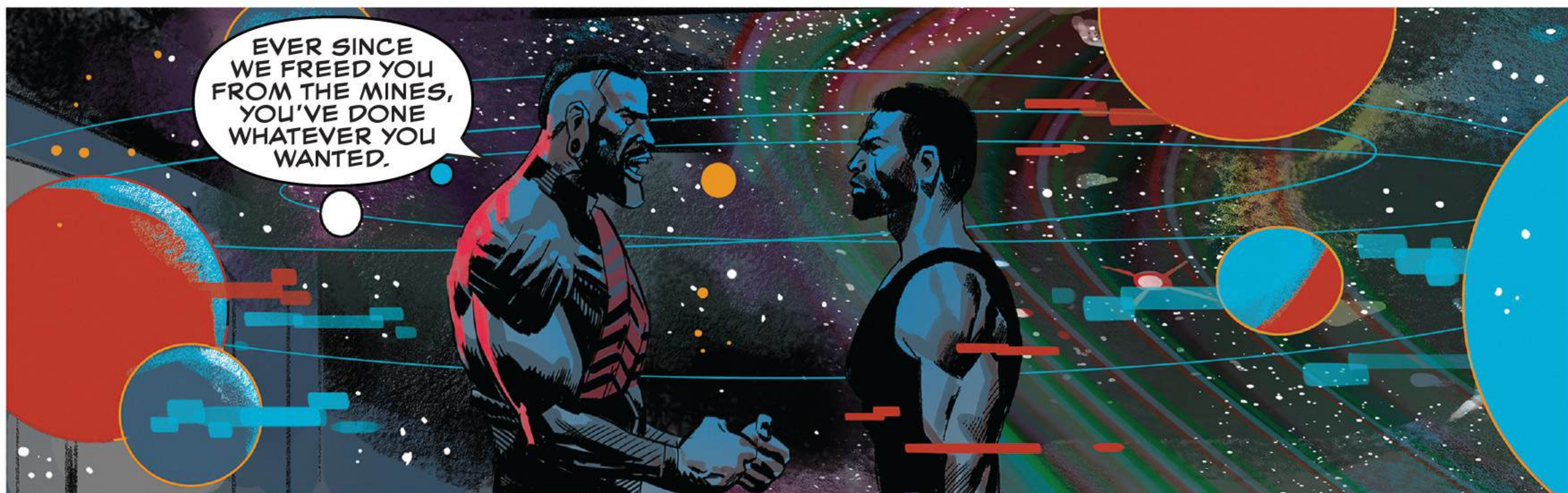
WHY ARE
YOU ACTING
LIKE THIS? YOU
ARE SUPPOSED
TO BE A
KING.



I AM
NO KING!

BAST SAYS
DIFFERENT.
YOUR OWN
MEMORIES SAY
DIFFERENT.

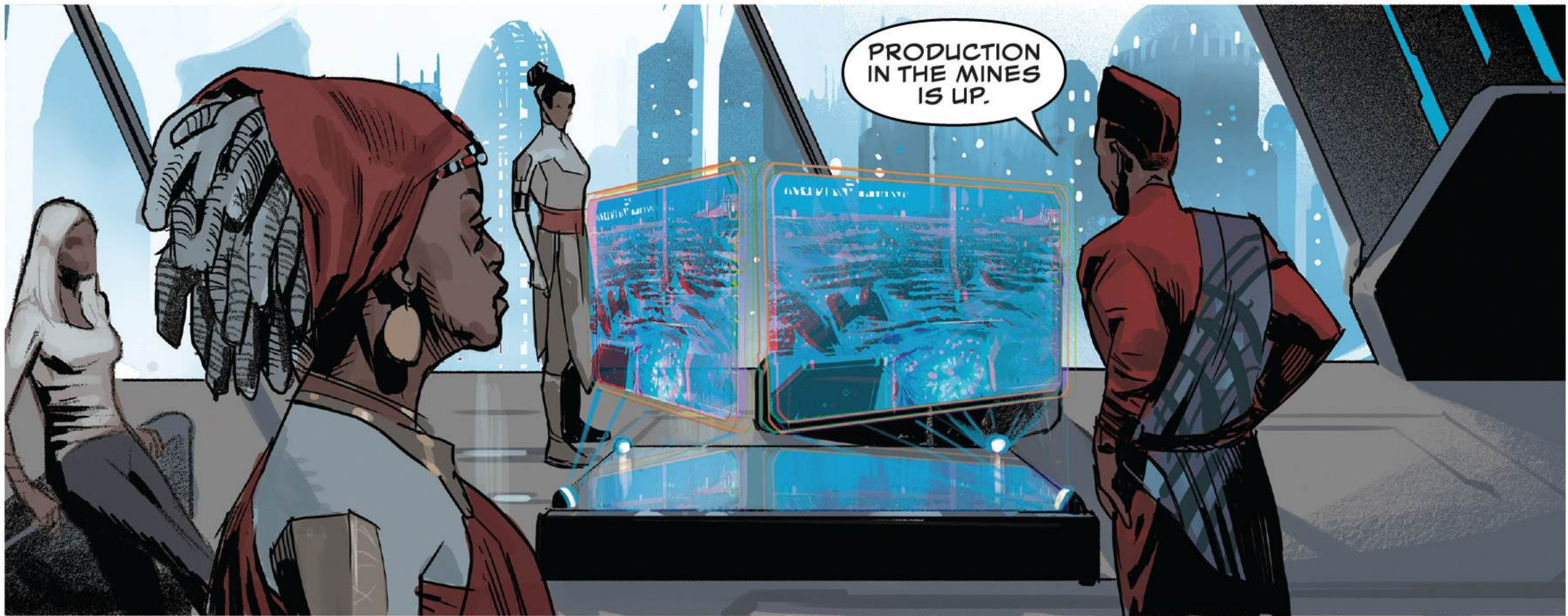
THE PROBLEM
IS NOT THAT YOU
AREN'T A KING--IT'S
THAT YOU DON'T
ACT LIKE ONE.





BIRNIN ZANA, THE GOLDEN CITY.

"HARVEST YIELDS
HAVE DOUBLED IN
ALKAMA."



PRODUCTION
IN THE MINES
IS UP.



AND AS THE TAIFA NGAO
SHOWS, INNOVATION
CONTINUES AT A
BREAKNECK
PACE.



THE HATUT
ZERAZE ARE IN
TOP FIGHTING
FORM.



I MUST SAY,
NOT SINCE THE
DESTURI INCIDENT
HAS WAKANDA
SEEMED SO
STRONG.

WE
TRULY ARE
BLESSED.



INTERESTING
CHOICE OF WORDS,
COUNCILMAN
HODARI.



IS THERE SOMETHING WRONG, ORORO?



NO, SHURI.
QUITE THE OPPOSITE.



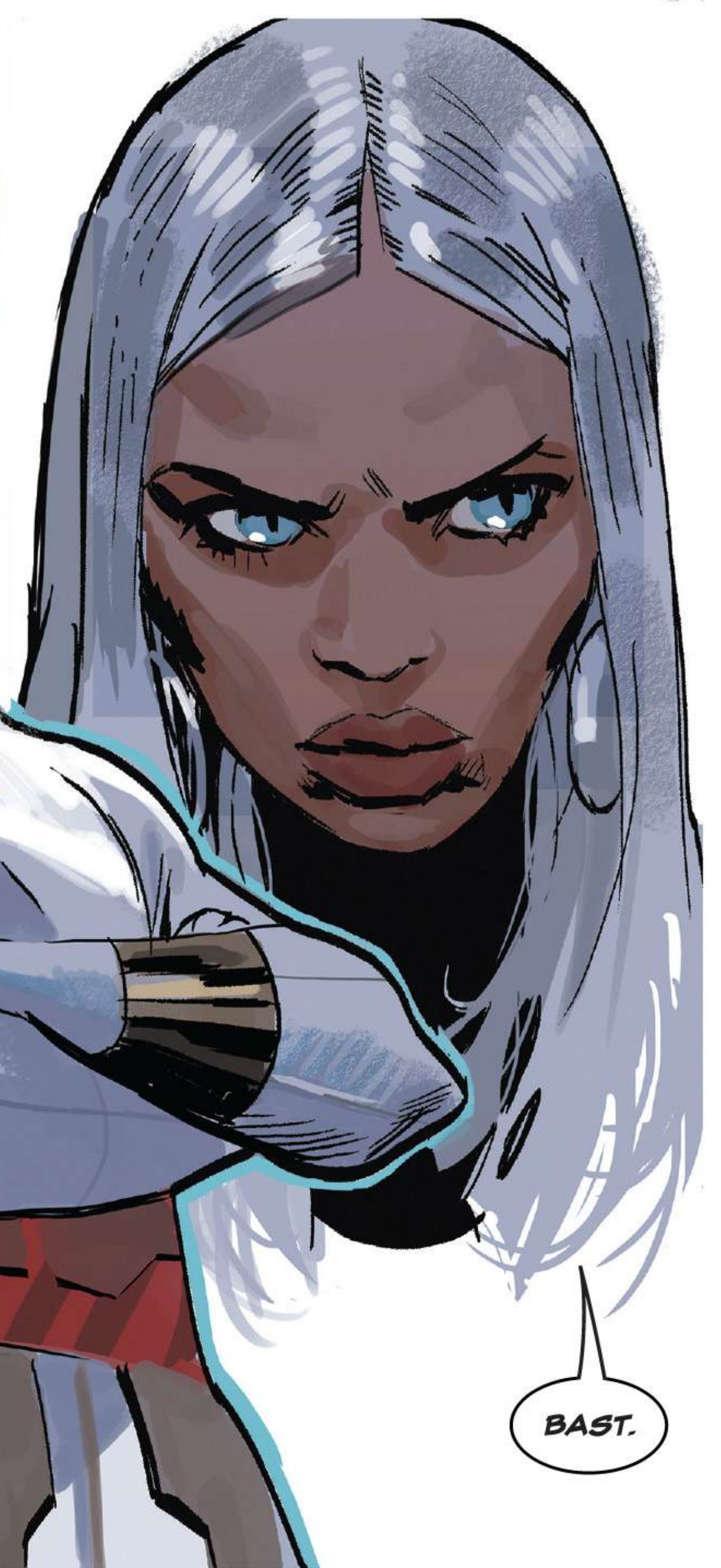
IT IS WORTH CONSIDERING THAT THESE **BLESSINGS** ARE NOT MERELY A MATTER OF WAKANDAN INGENUITY.



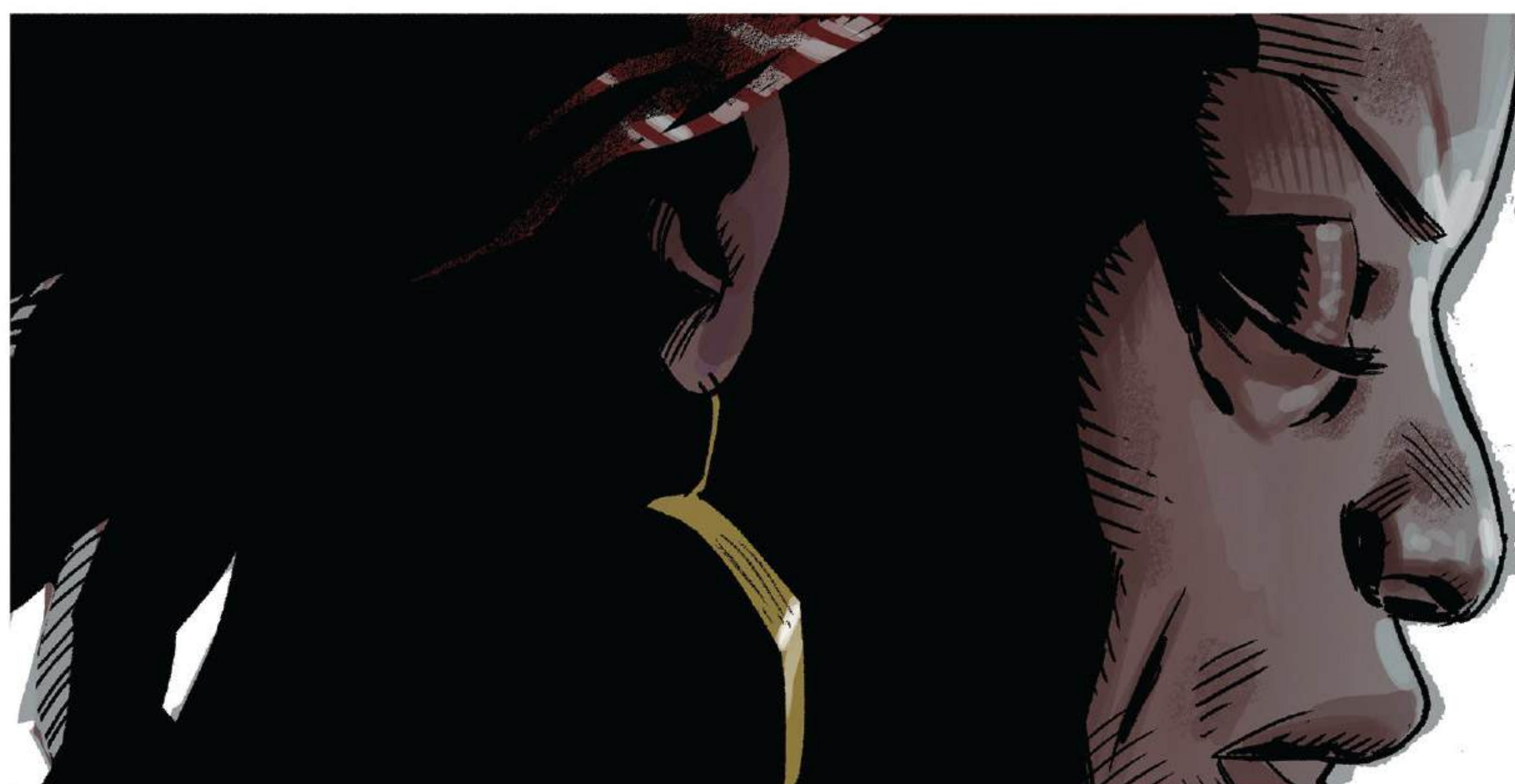
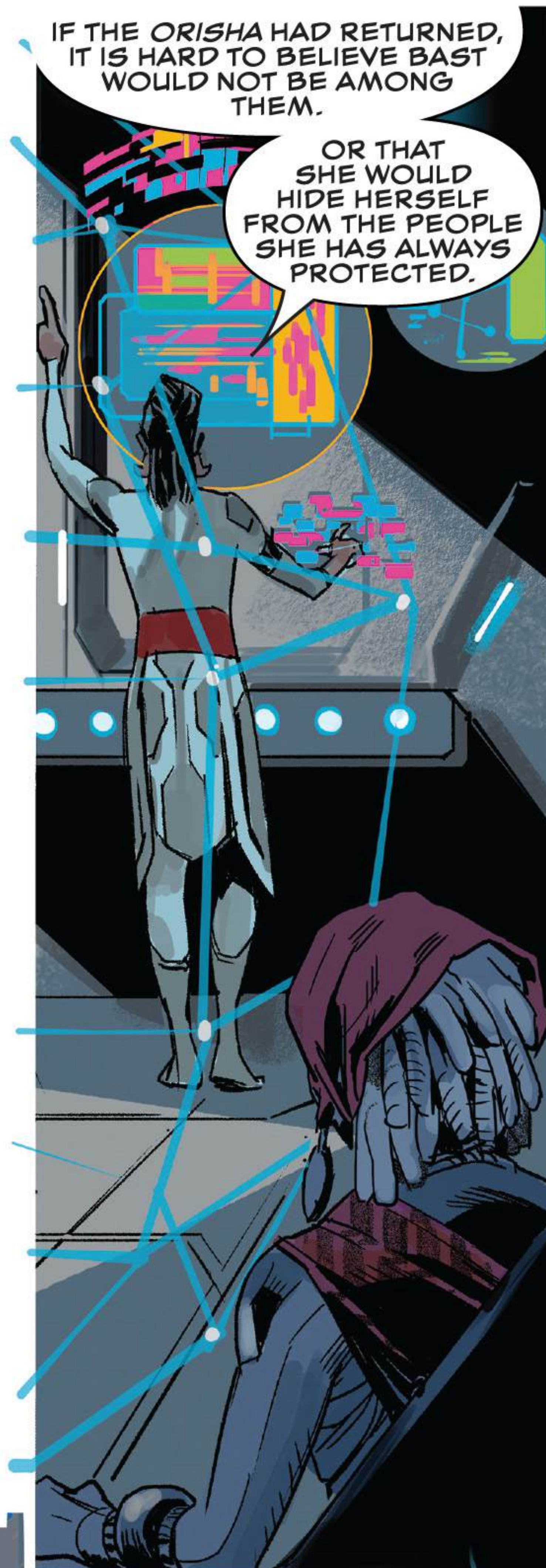
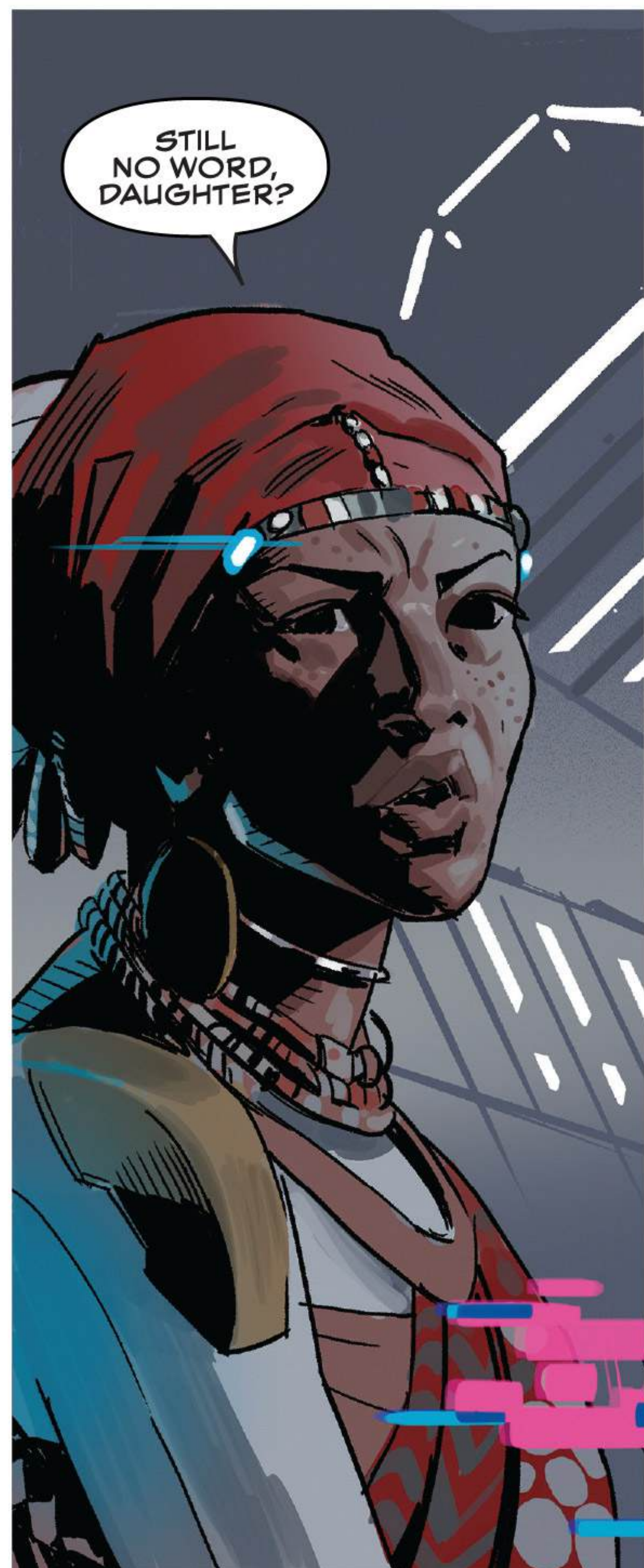
THE ORISHA MAY HAVE RETURNED.



I'D FIND THAT EASIER TO BELIEVE BUT FOR ONE THING.



BAST.







DON'T
TOUCH
ME!

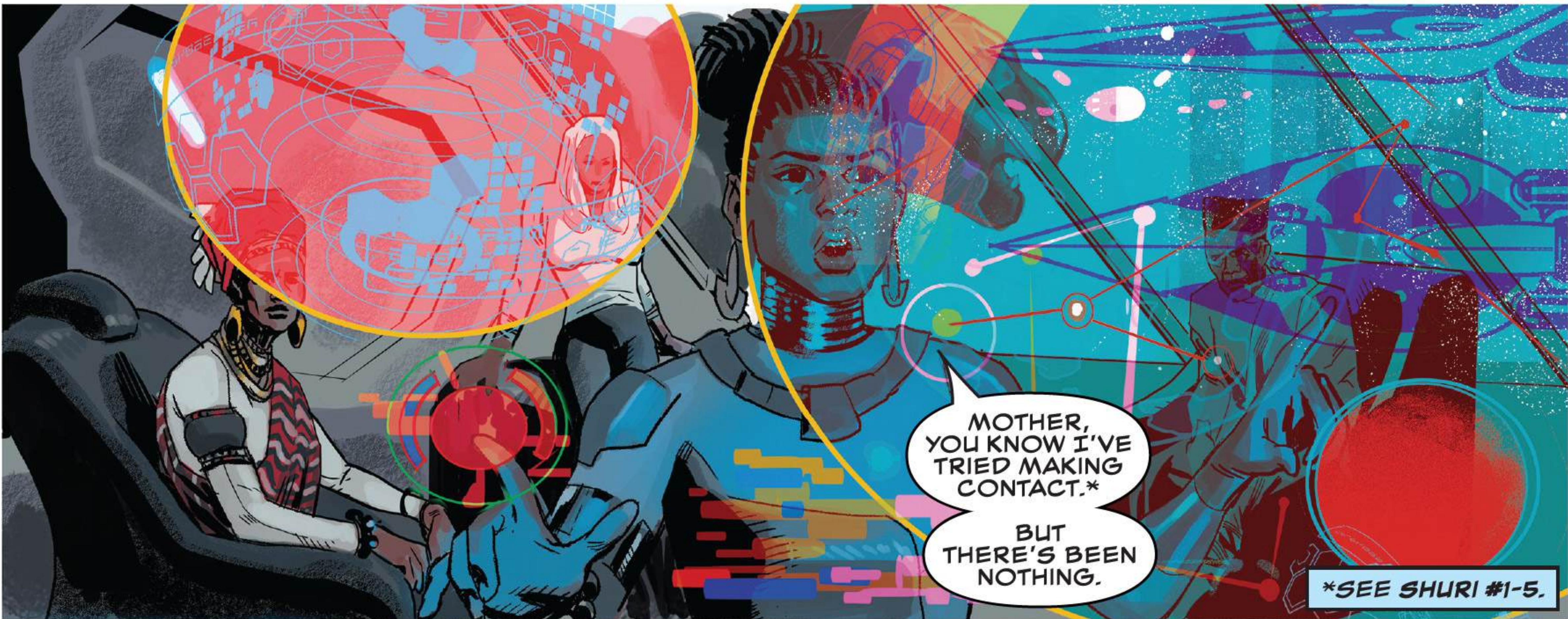
NEGATIVE.

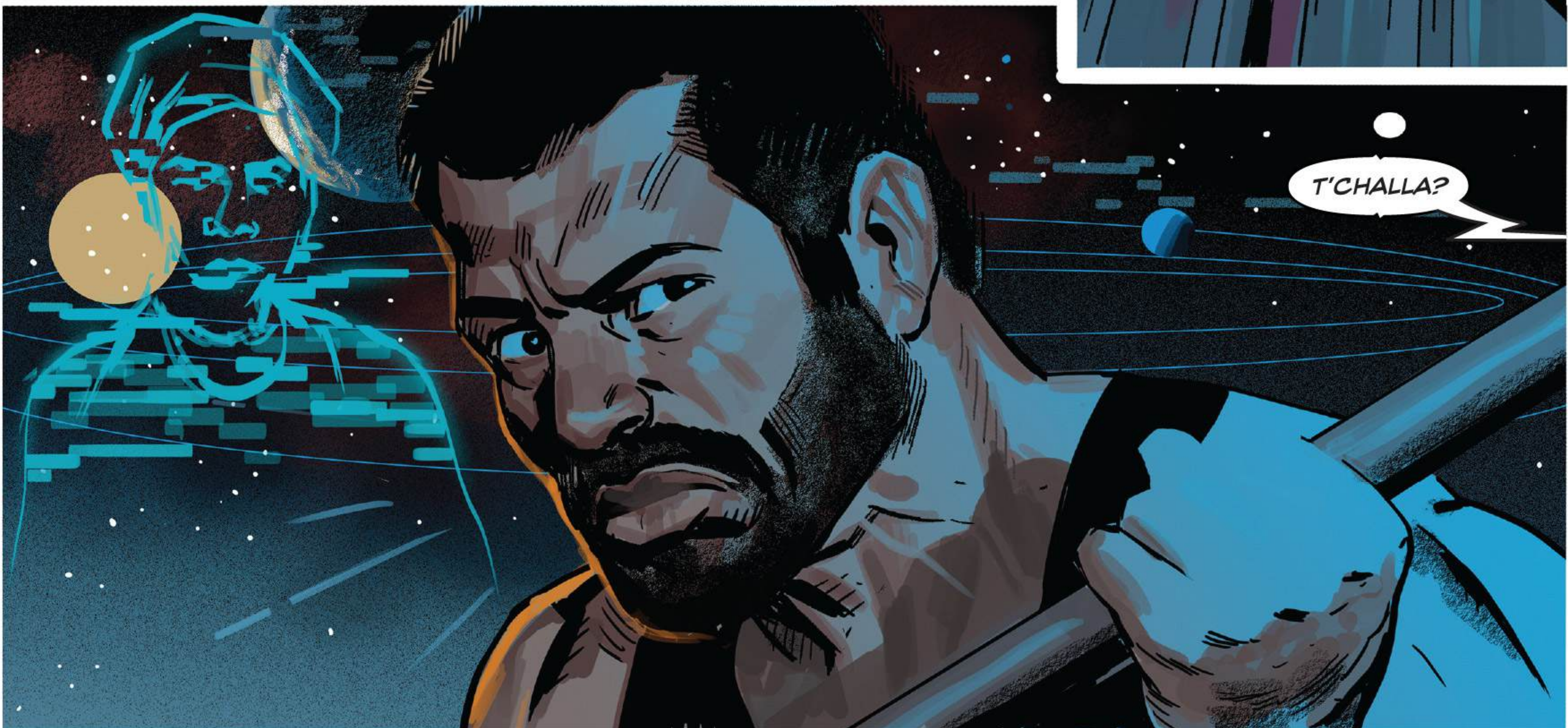
ADJUST
FREQUENCY
.03 PERCENT.

SCANNING...



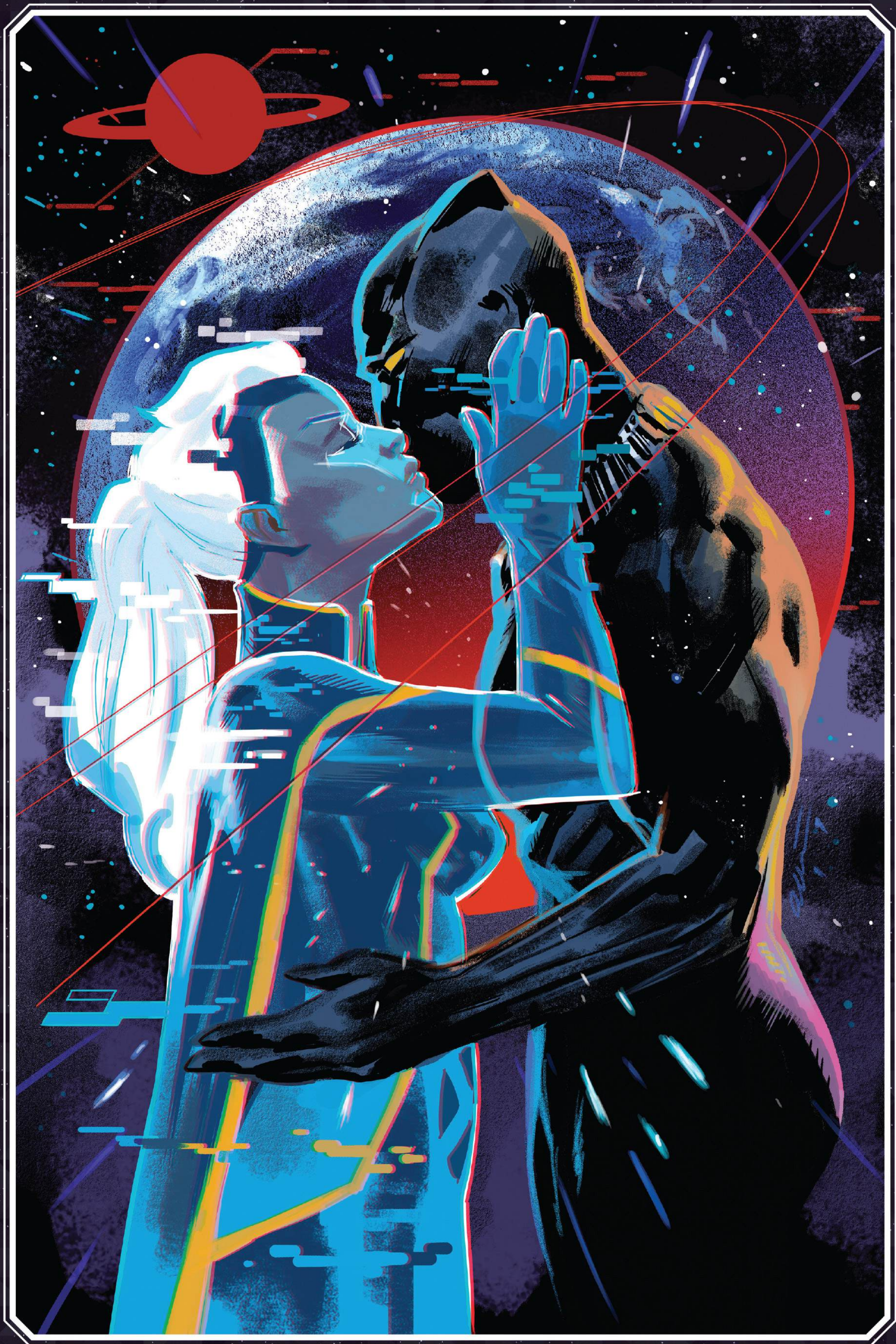


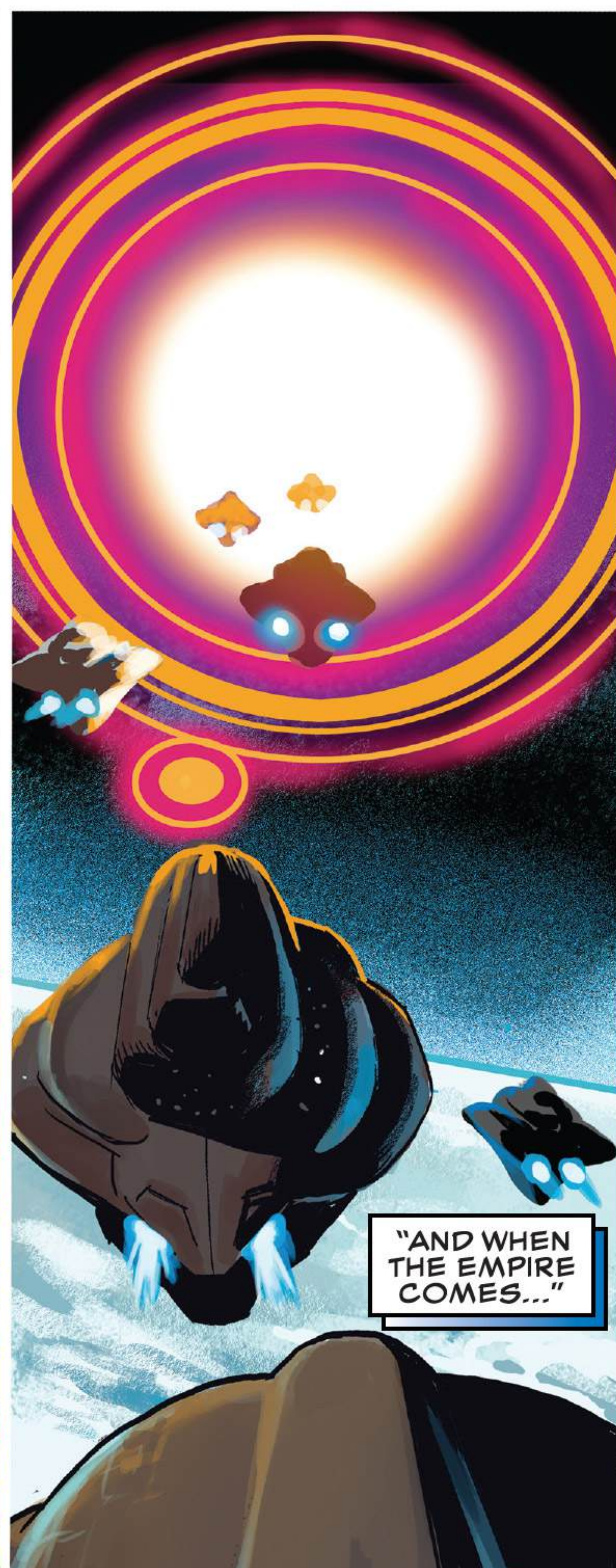
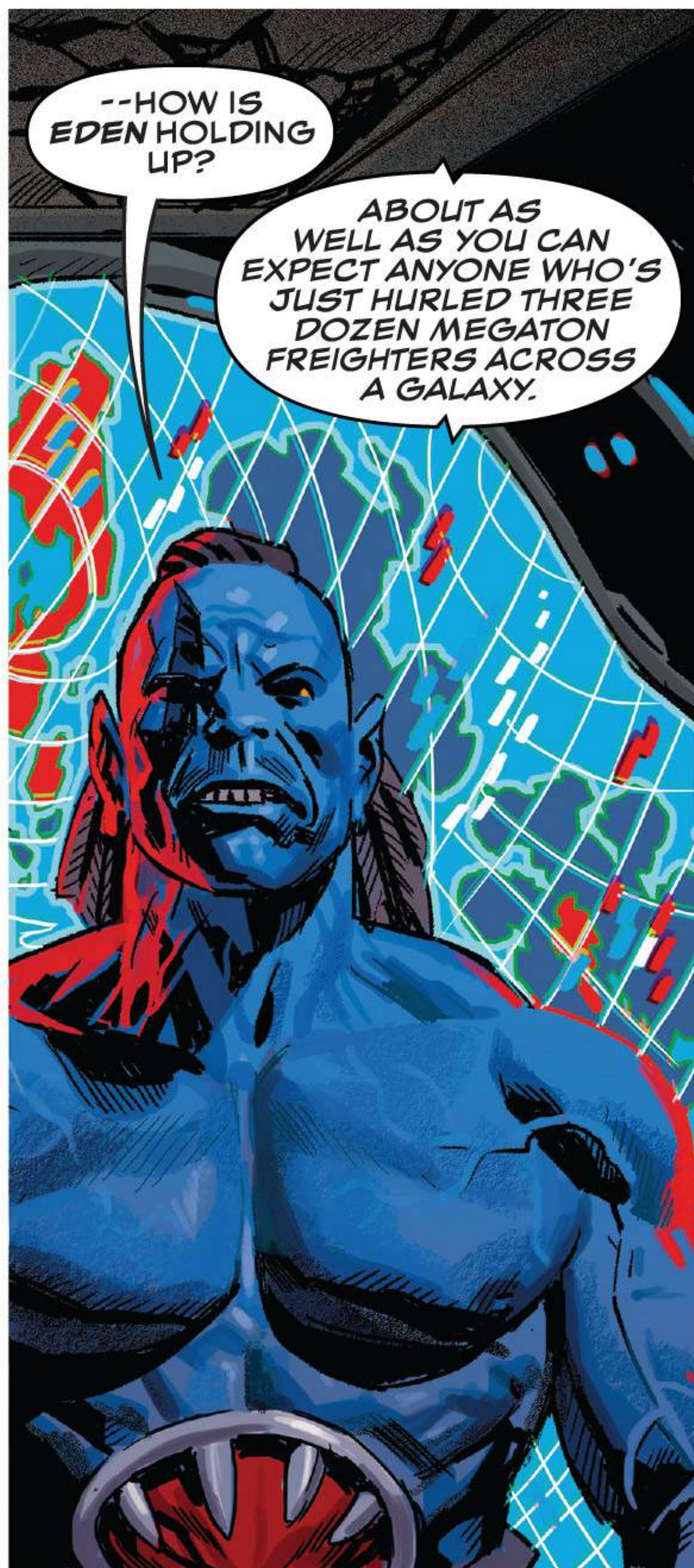


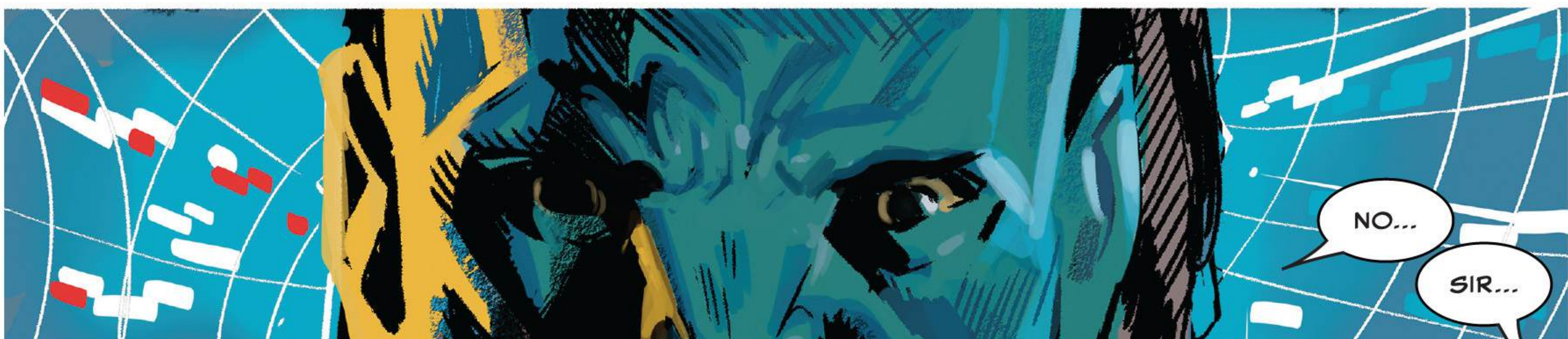
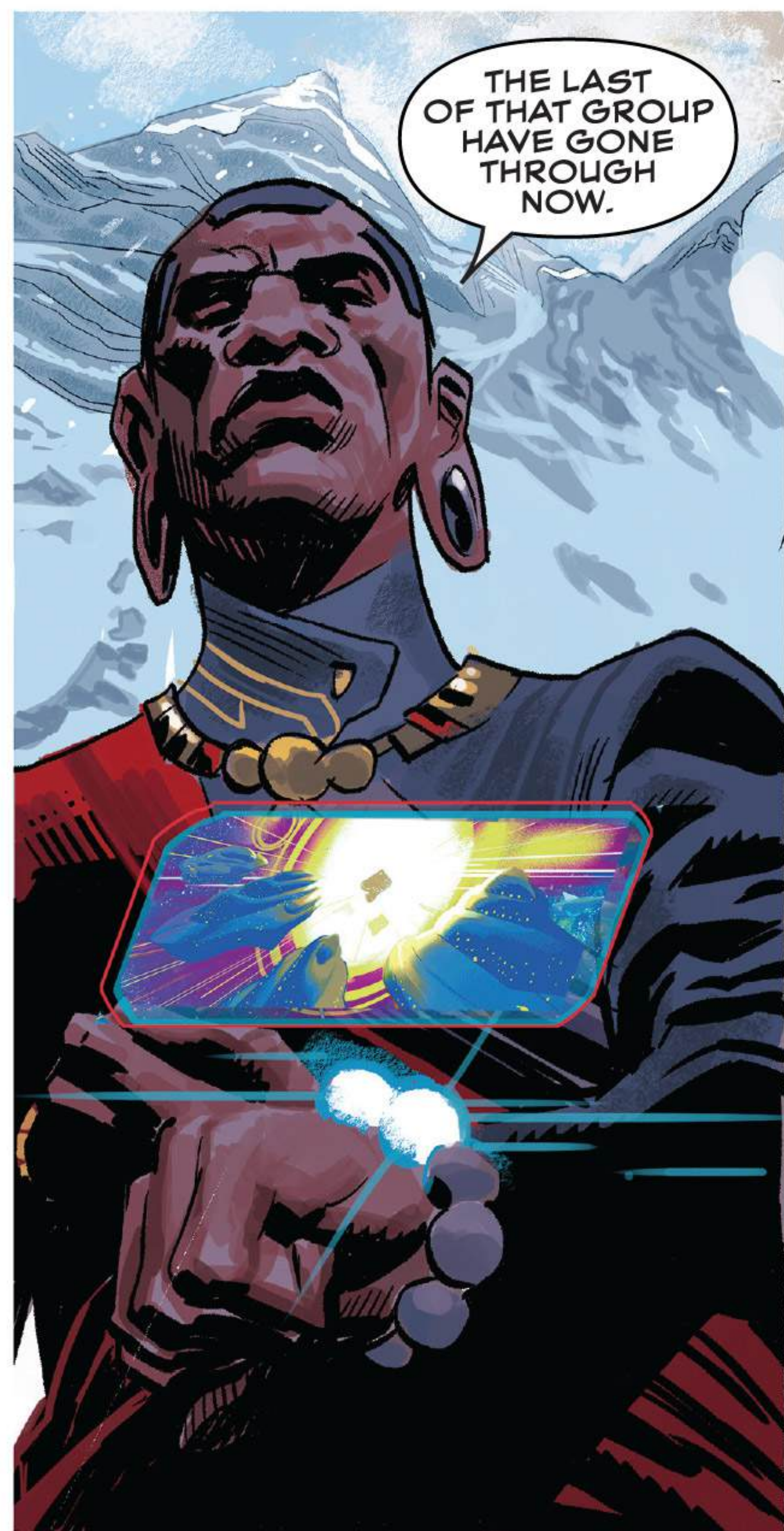
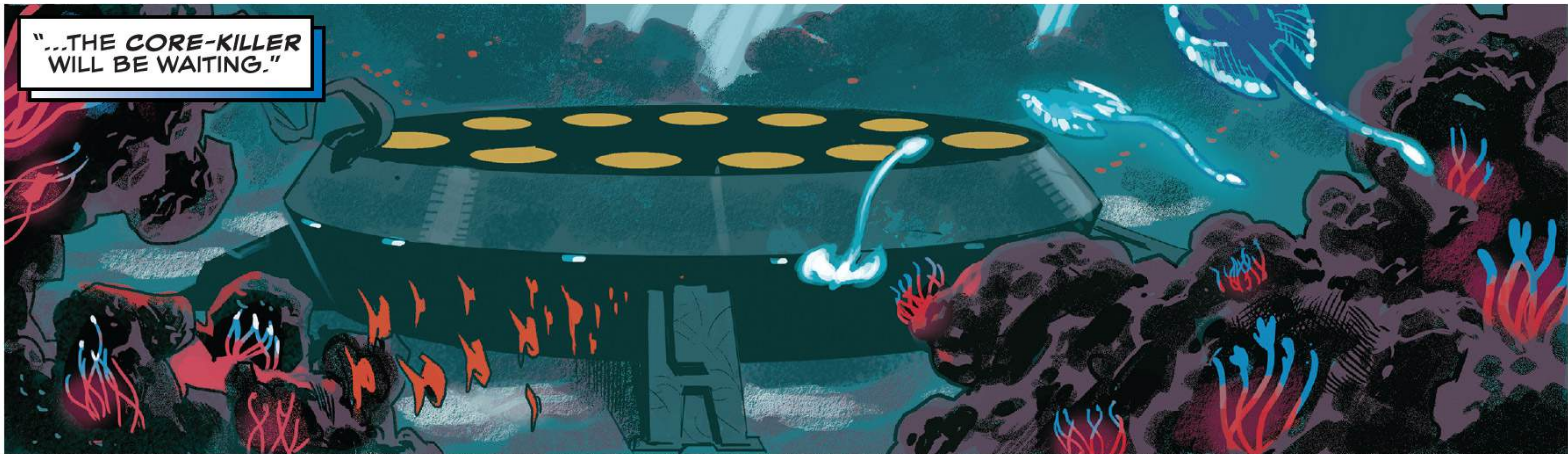




IS
THAT YOU,
MY SON?









"...IT'S
N'JADAKA."



GET THOSE
FREIGHTERS
BACK PLANET-
SIDE!



"SAVE THE
CIVILIANS AT
ALL COSTS!"



"READY
A COUNTER-
ATTACK."



AND GET
ME T'CHALLA.
NOW!

WAKANDA PRIME, EARTH.



WE ARE,
OF COURSE,
ALL PLEASED TO
HAVE FOUND YOU,
T'CHALLA--OR
PLEASED THAT
YOU HAVE
FOUND US.

AND THERE
WILL BE TIME FOR
PLEASANTRIES AND
REMEMBRANCE,
MY SON.

BUT THAT
TIME IS NOT
NOW.



WHAT YOU
MUST KNOW,
WHAT YOU WILL
BE HAPPY TO KNOW,
IS THAT WAKANDA
HAS BLOOMED
DESPITE YOUR
ABSENCE.

WE FIND THE
GOLDEN CITY IN
A GOLDEN AGE--
AN AGE OF
PEACE.



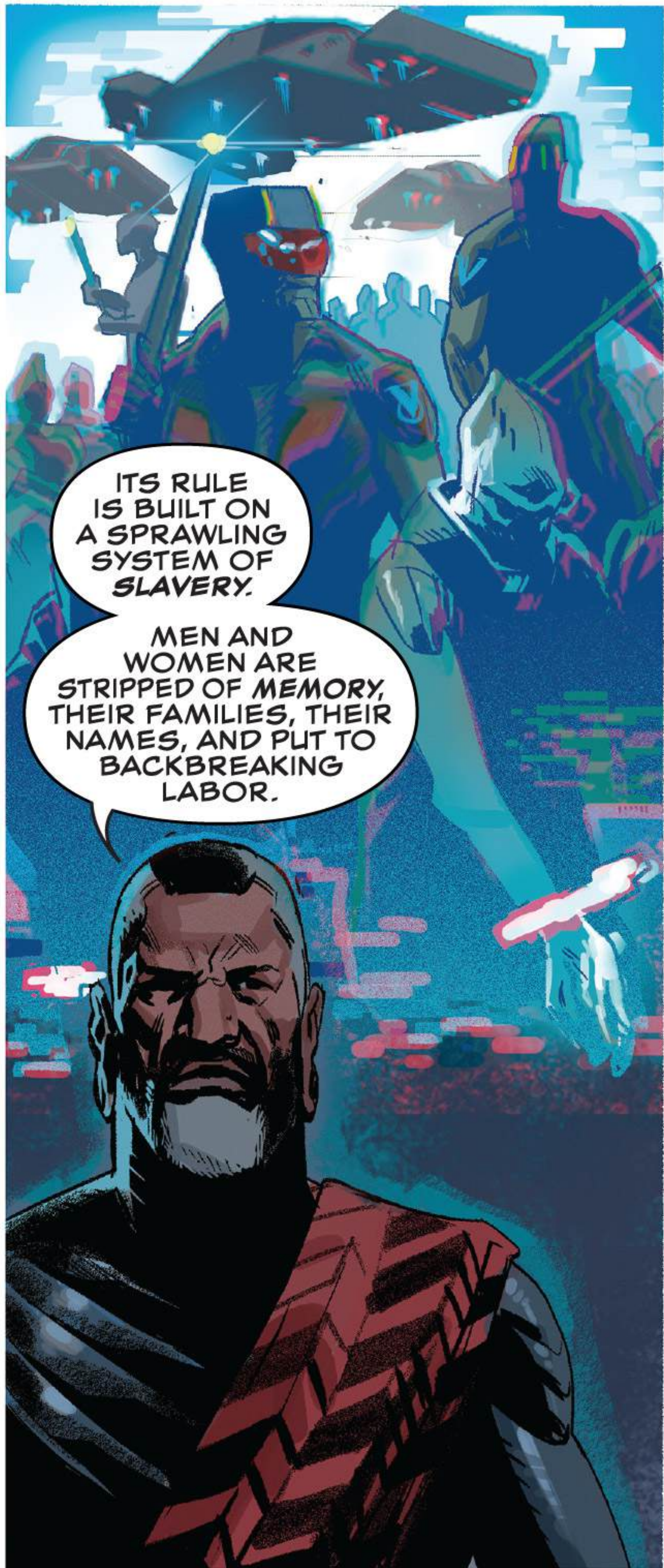
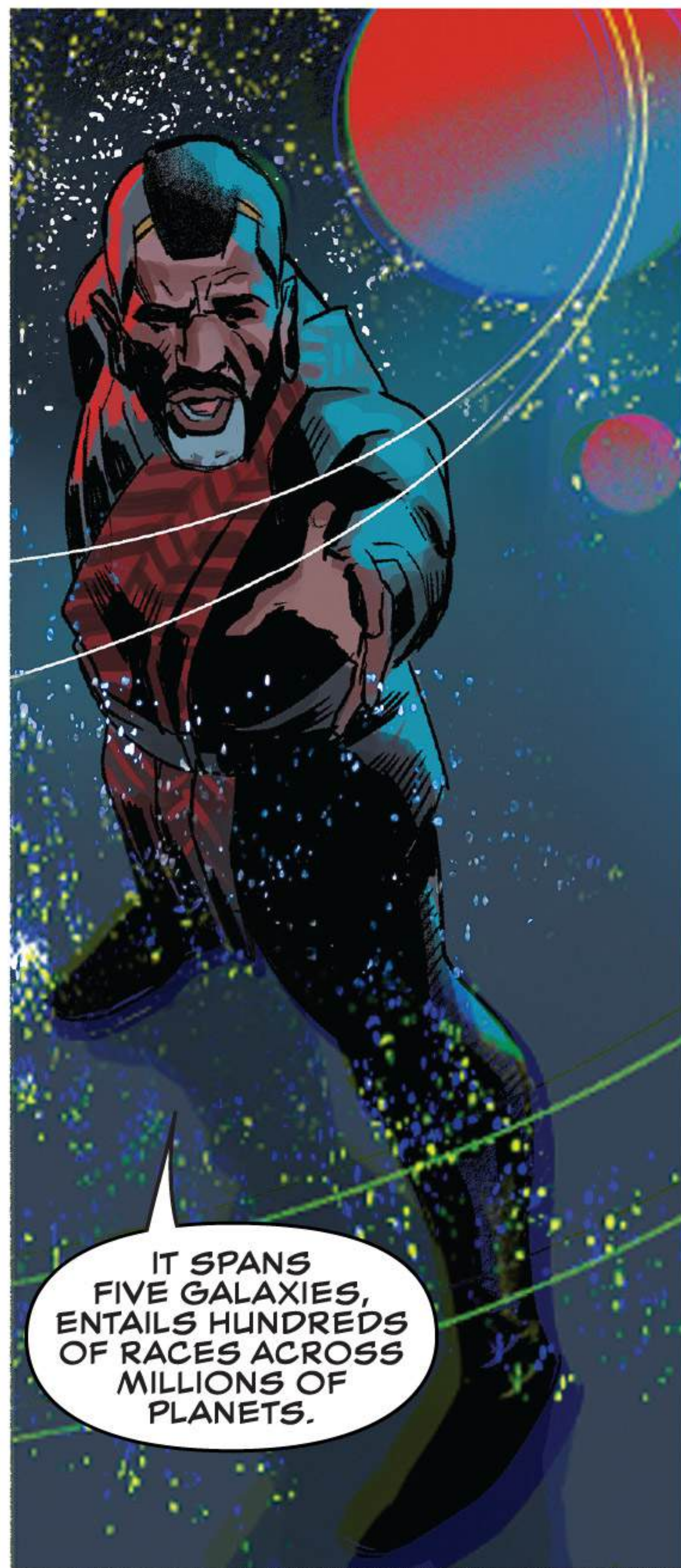
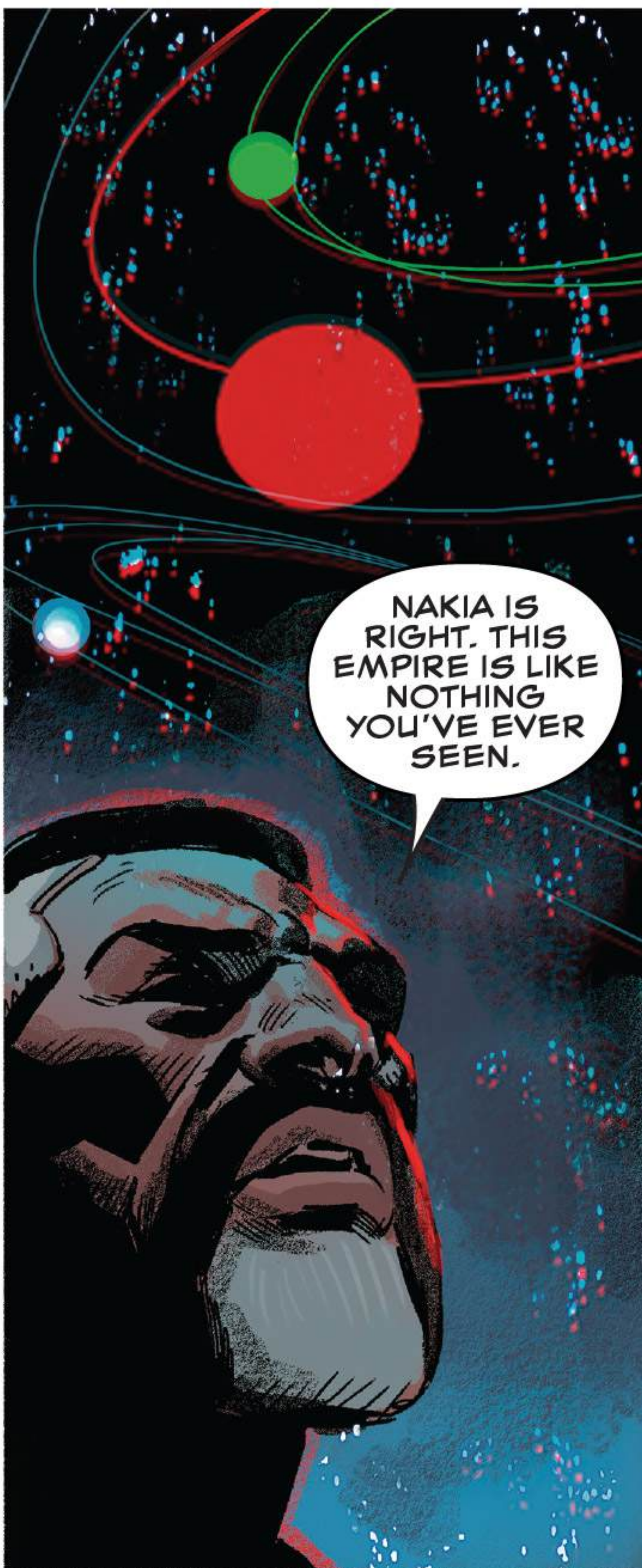
PEACE AFTER
THE *DESTURI*.
PEACE AFTER
MORLUN, AFTER
DOOM.

THE WORLD AROUND
US IS TROUBLED, AND
WE DO WHAT WE CAN. BUT
WE HAVE ACHIEVED A BALANCE
BETWEEN BRIDGES AND WALLS.

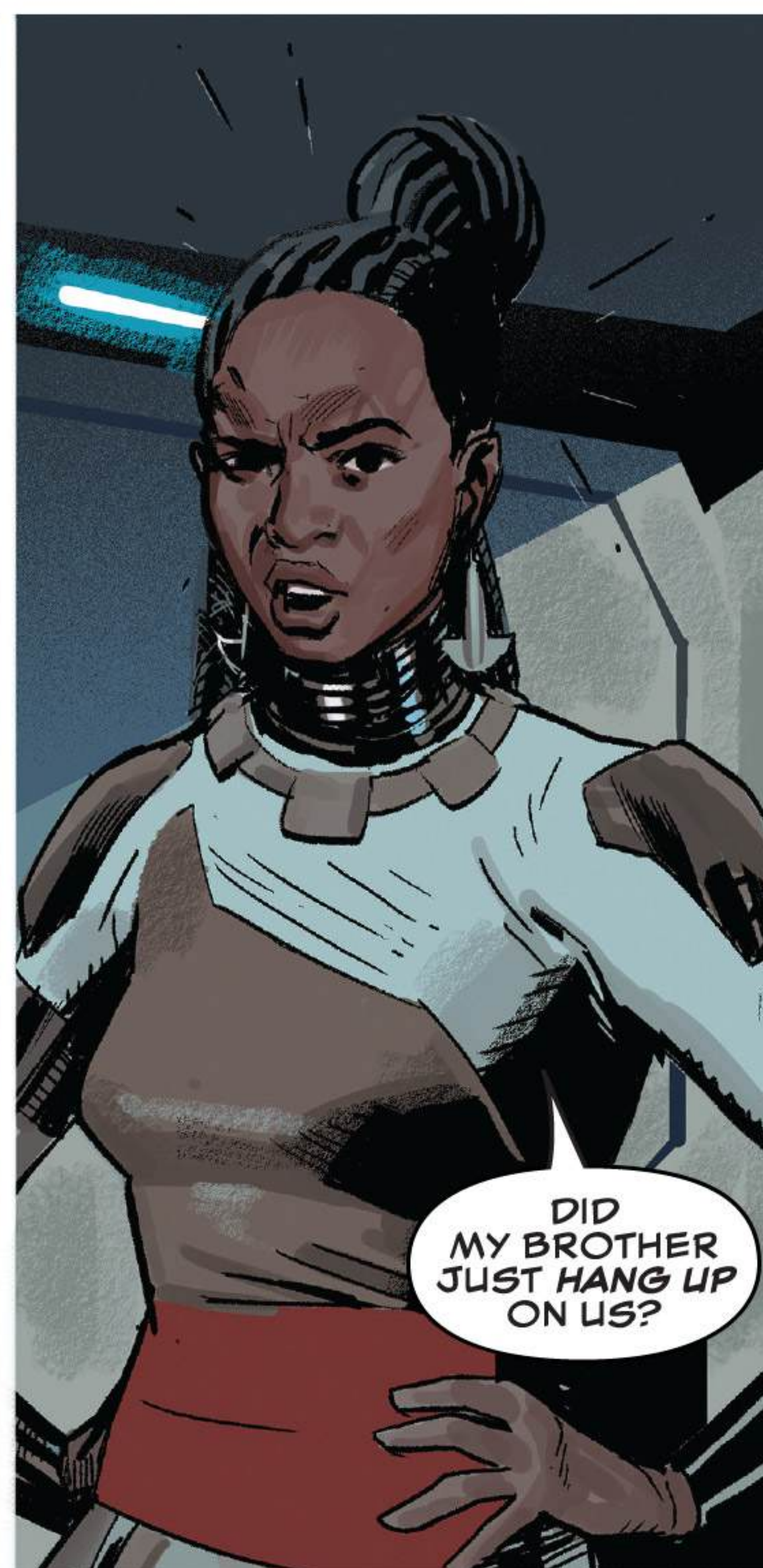


THAT YOU
WOULD ASK US
TO *RISK* THAT
BALANCE...

T'CHALLA,
THE CAUSE
MUST TRULY BE
OF EXTREME
IMPORT.









THE TEKUMAZA REBELS ARE LAUNCHING ANOTHER SORTIE, EMPEROR N'JADAKA.



FIVE FLIGHTS LAUNCHED FROM THE PLANET.



SIR, THEY'RE FLYING THE MAROONS' ZULU SHIPS. THEY MUST BE--

THEY POSE NO THREAT.



THESE
SHALL BE THE
FORTUNATE
ONES.



"FOR THEY SHALL
PERISH BY THE
SWIFT SWORD OF
MY ARMADA."



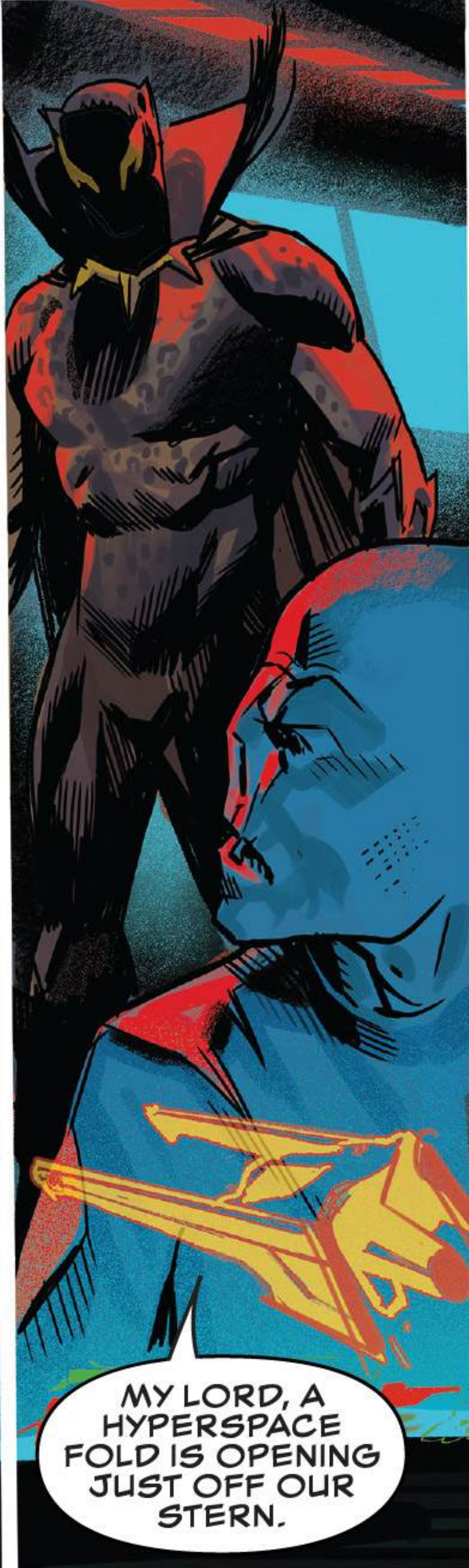
BUT FOR
AGWE...

FOR
THE REBELS
WHO DARED
HANDLE MY
DAUGHTER...



...DEATH SHALL
COME ONLY
AFTER A LIFETIME
OF AGONY.

AND WHEN I
AM DONE, THIS
ENTIRE QUADRANT
WILL *BEG* FOR
THE MINES.

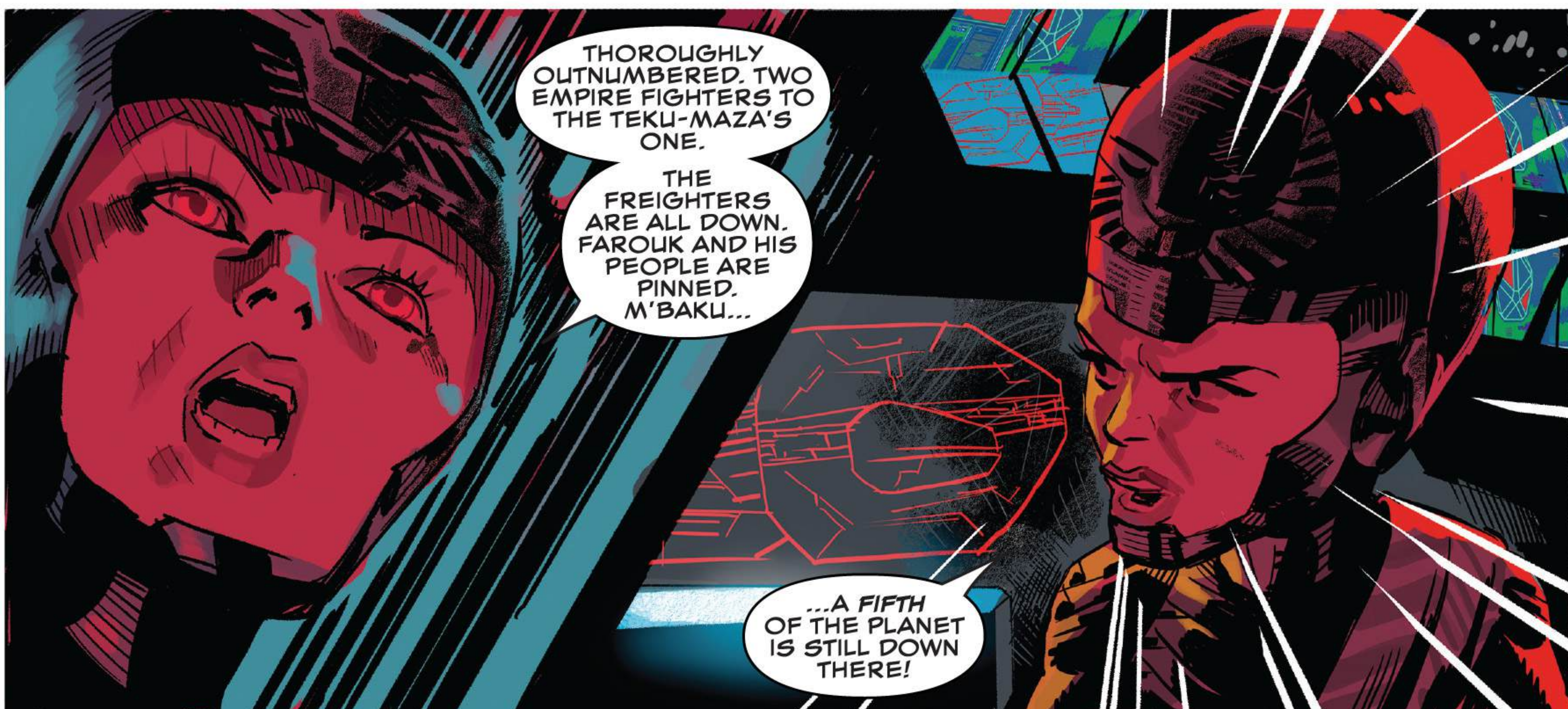


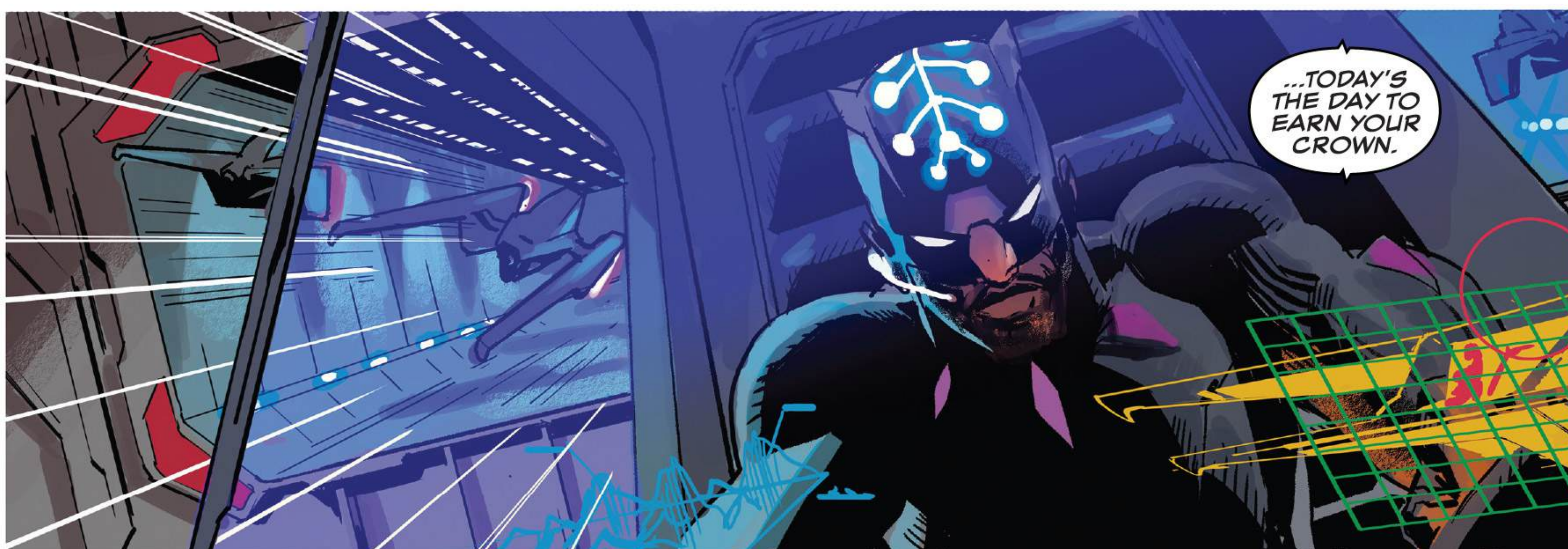
MY LORD, A
HYPERSPACE
FOLD IS OPENING
JUST OFF OUR
STERN.



WHO?

"REBEL
REINFORCEMENTS,
SIR. THE MAROONS."



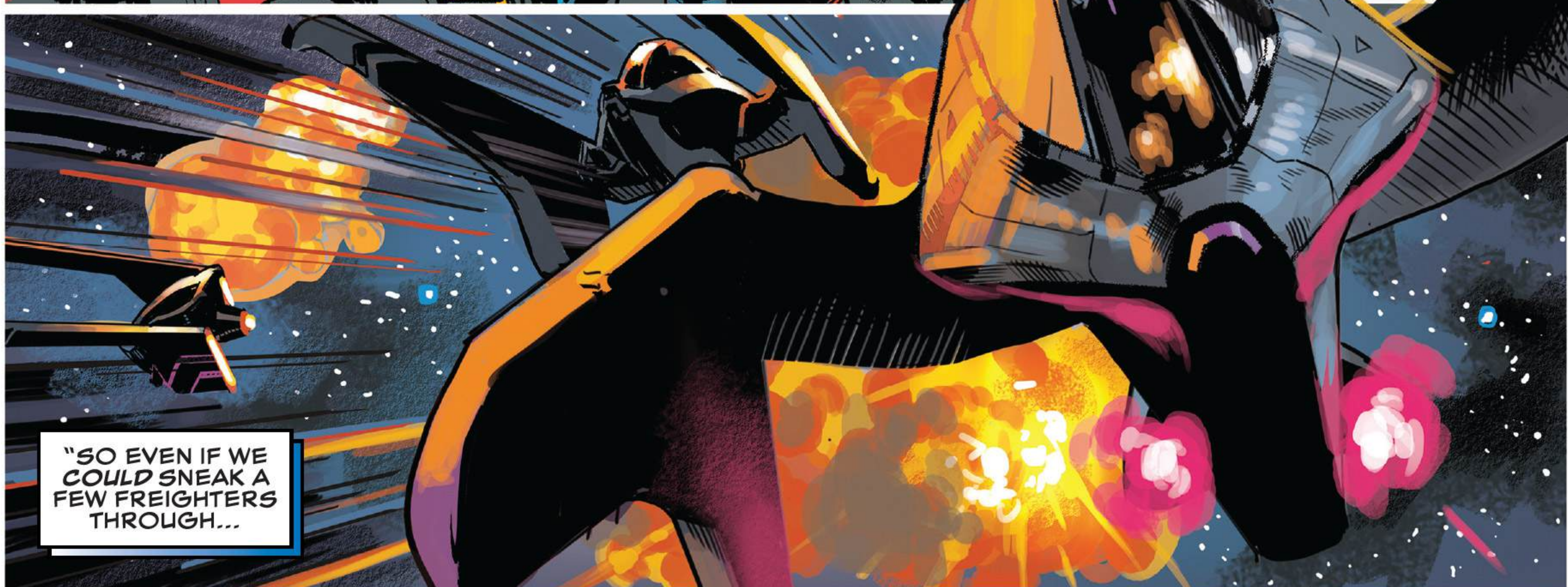




THE
MAROONS
ARE OCCUPYING
THE IMPERIAL
FLEET, SIR.

IF THEY
KEEP THIS UP,
WE MIGHT BE
ABLE TO SNEAK A
FEW FREIGHTERS
THROUGH.

THERE'S
ONE PROBLEM:
INTERSTELLAR
TELEMETRY IS
STILL DOWN.



"SO EVEN IF WE
COULD SNEAK A
FEW FREIGHTERS
THROUGH..."



"...THERE'S NO WAY
WE COULD TELL EDEN
TO OPEN THE PORTAL."

WE'RE
WORKING ON IT,
COMMANDER.

GOOD.
LET'S HOPE IT'S
RESTORED--BUT
PLAN IN CASE
IT IS NOT.

SIR?

TELL THE
GROUND CREW
TO ARM THE
CORE-KILLER.

"N'JADAKA MUST
NOT ESCAPE.

"NO MATTER
THE COST."

PLANETARY
INCENDIARY
ARMED



M'BAKU,
WE'RE BADLY
OUTNUMBERED.

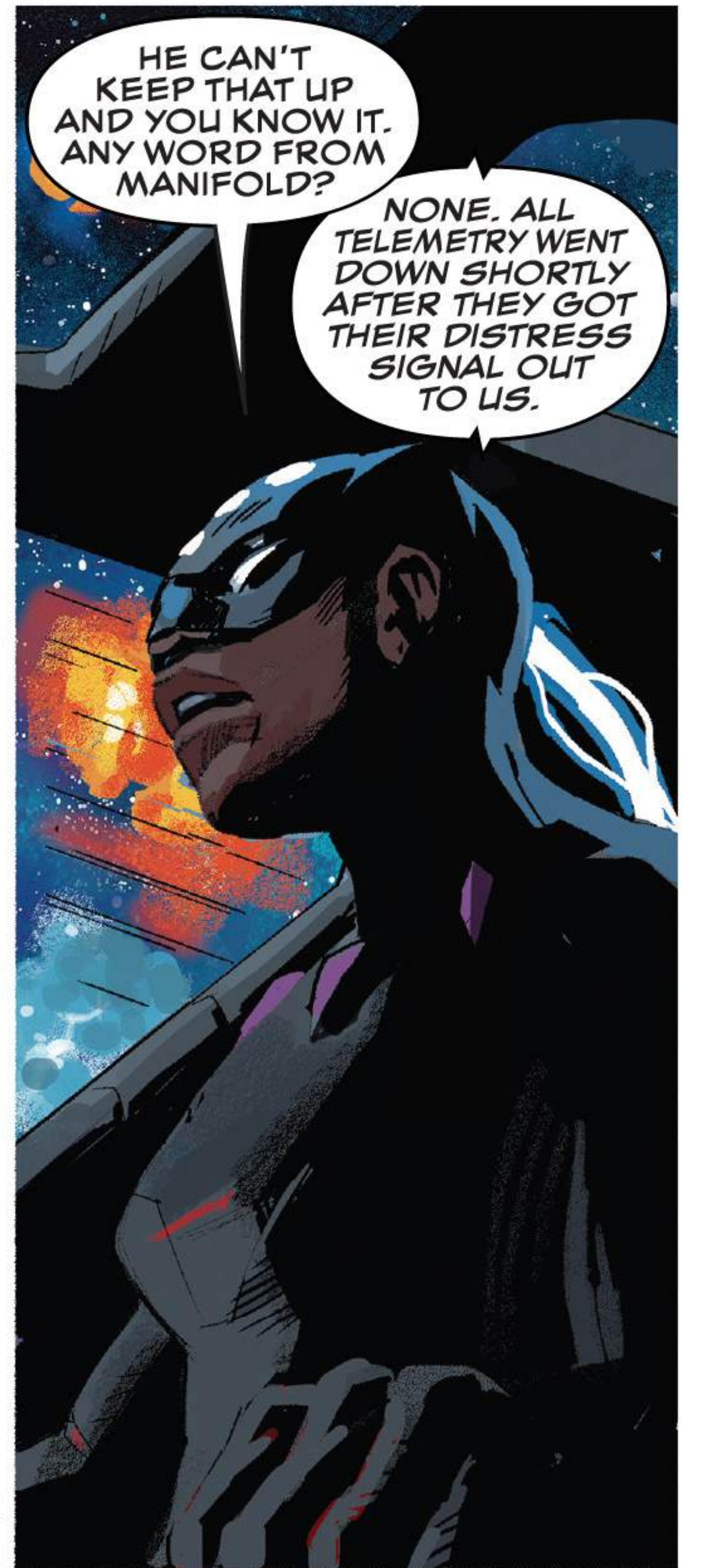


I SEE
THAT, NAKIA--



--BUT
THEY ARE
OUTGUNNED.

T'CHALLA'S
TAKEN OUT A
QUARTER OF
THEIR FLEET
ALREADY.



HE CAN'T
KEEP THAT UP
AND YOU KNOW IT.
ANY WORD FROM
MANIFOLD?

NONE. ALL
TELEMETRY WENT
DOWN SHORTLY
AFTER THEY GOT
THEIR DISTRESS
SIGNAL OUT
TO US.



BAST?

PFFT. HER
CONTRIBUTION TO
THIS FIGHT AMOUNTS
TO LITTLE MORE
THAN GLARING.

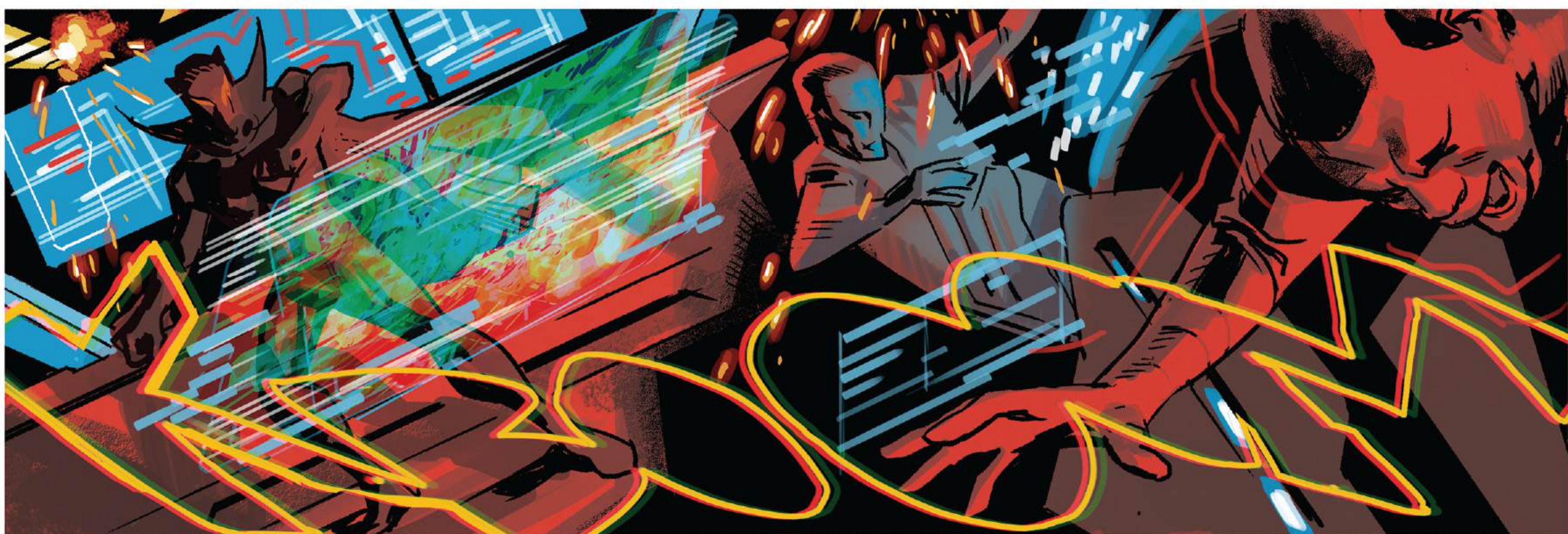


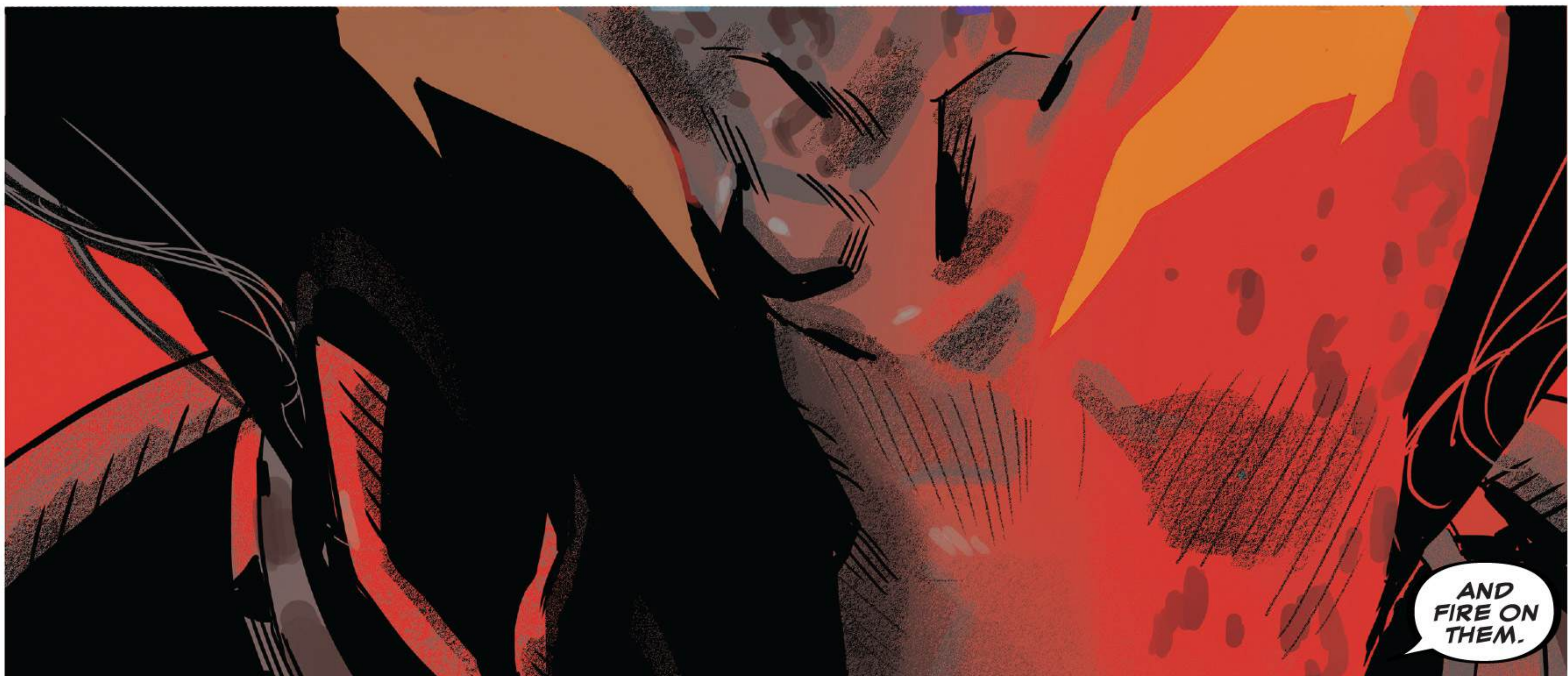
GLARING IS
ABOUT ALL YOU
DESERVE.



IF YOU
KNEW THE
REACH OF MY
POWER...









M'BAKU,
WE'RE GETTING
TELEMETRY!



COMMANDER...

FAROUK,
WE'RE DOING
OUR BEST TO
DISTRACT N'JADAKA.
ARE THERE ANY
VACANT FREIGHTERS
DOWN THERE?



IT'S
TOO LATE FOR
THAT. THE EMPIRE IS
BOMBARDING OUR
SHELTERS.

WE'RE
OUT OF TIME,
COMMANDER.

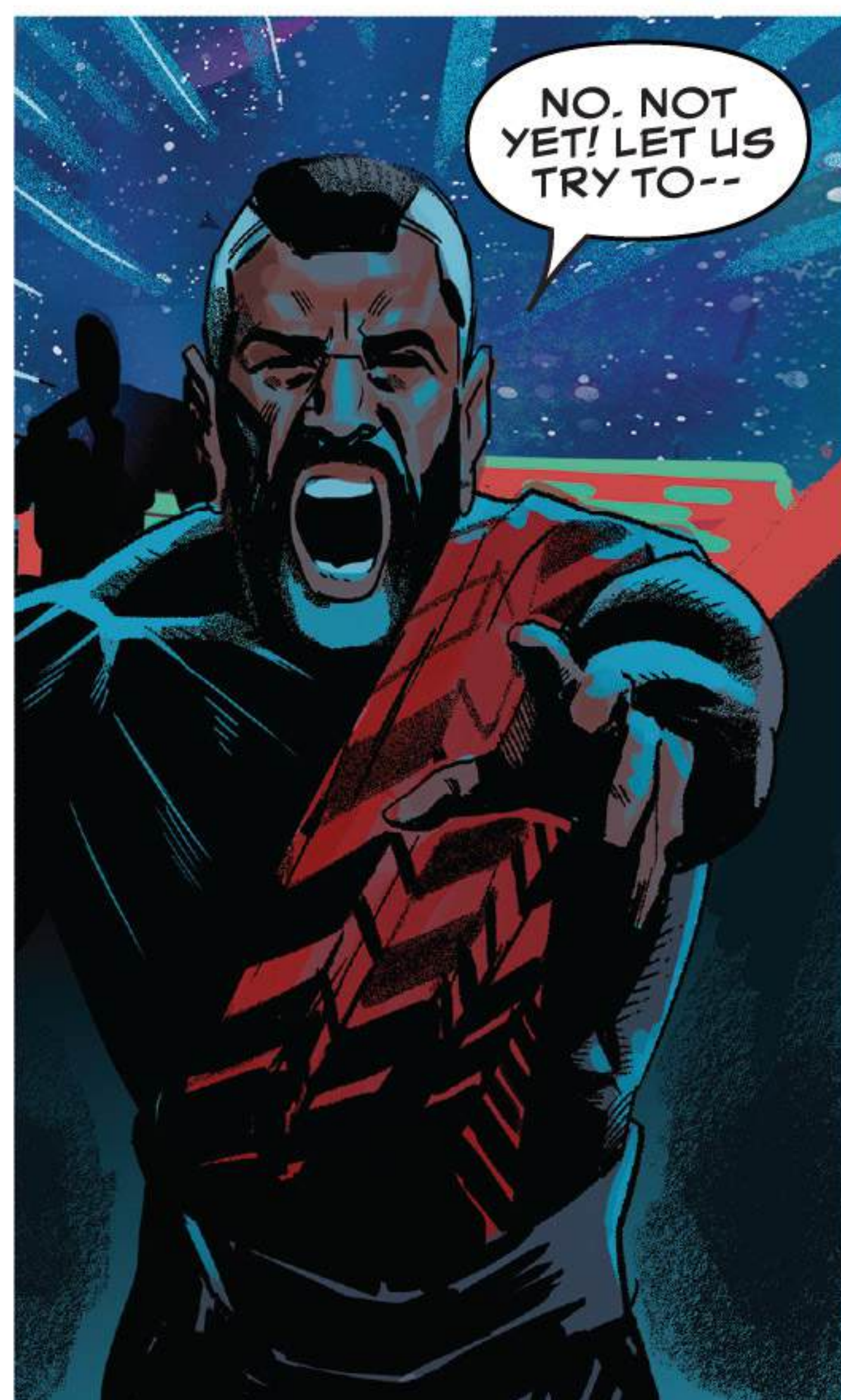


NOW LISTEN
CLOSELY.

I'VE ACTIVATED
THE CORE-KILLER.
WHEN IT IGNITES, IT
WILL ANNIHILATE AGWE
AND ANYTHING
ELSE IN RANGE.



INCLUDING
THE TYRANT, THE
SLAVER-LORD,
N'JADAKA.

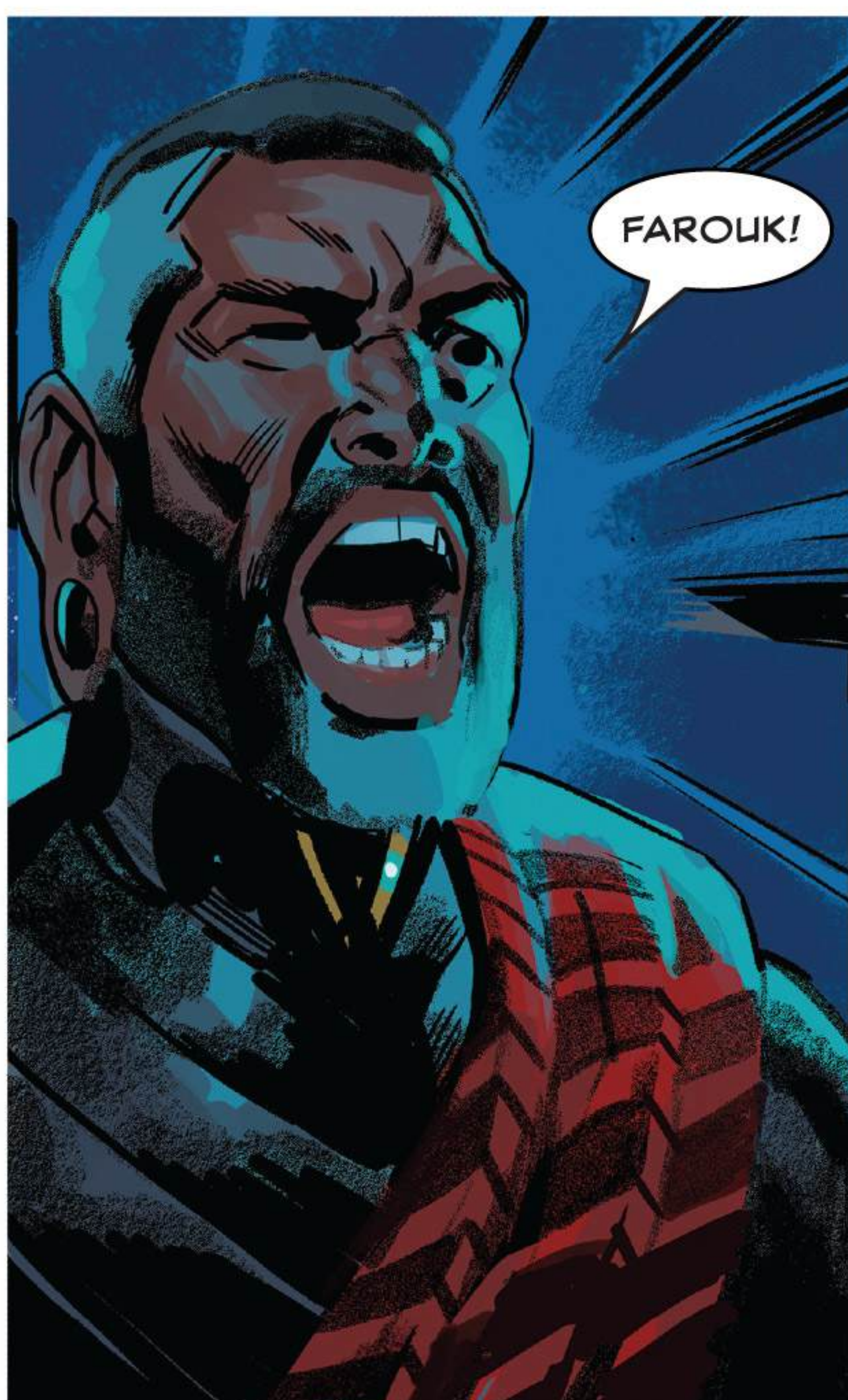


NO. NOT
YET! LET US
TRY TO--



THERE'S
NO TIME.
IT'S ALREADY
DONE.

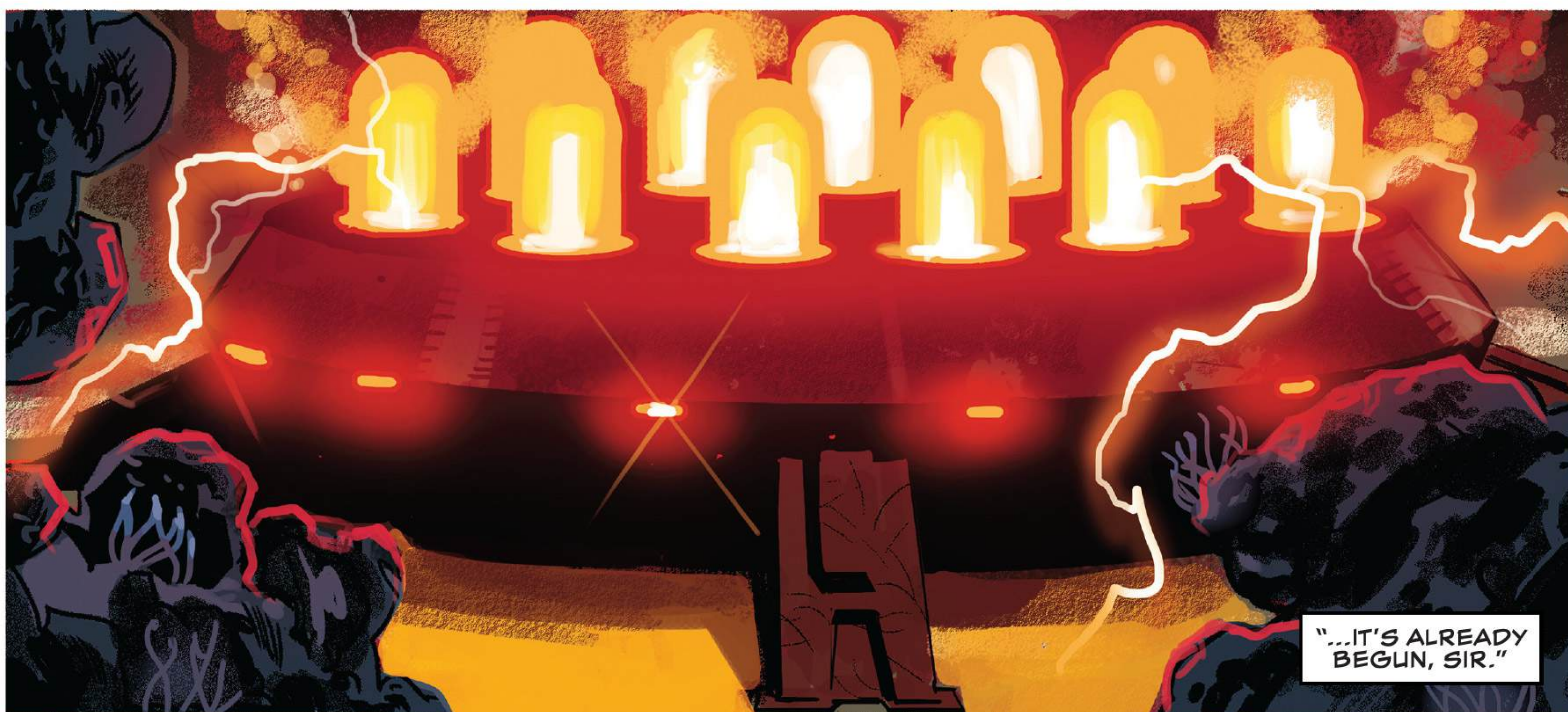
GET
YOUR MEN
OUT--

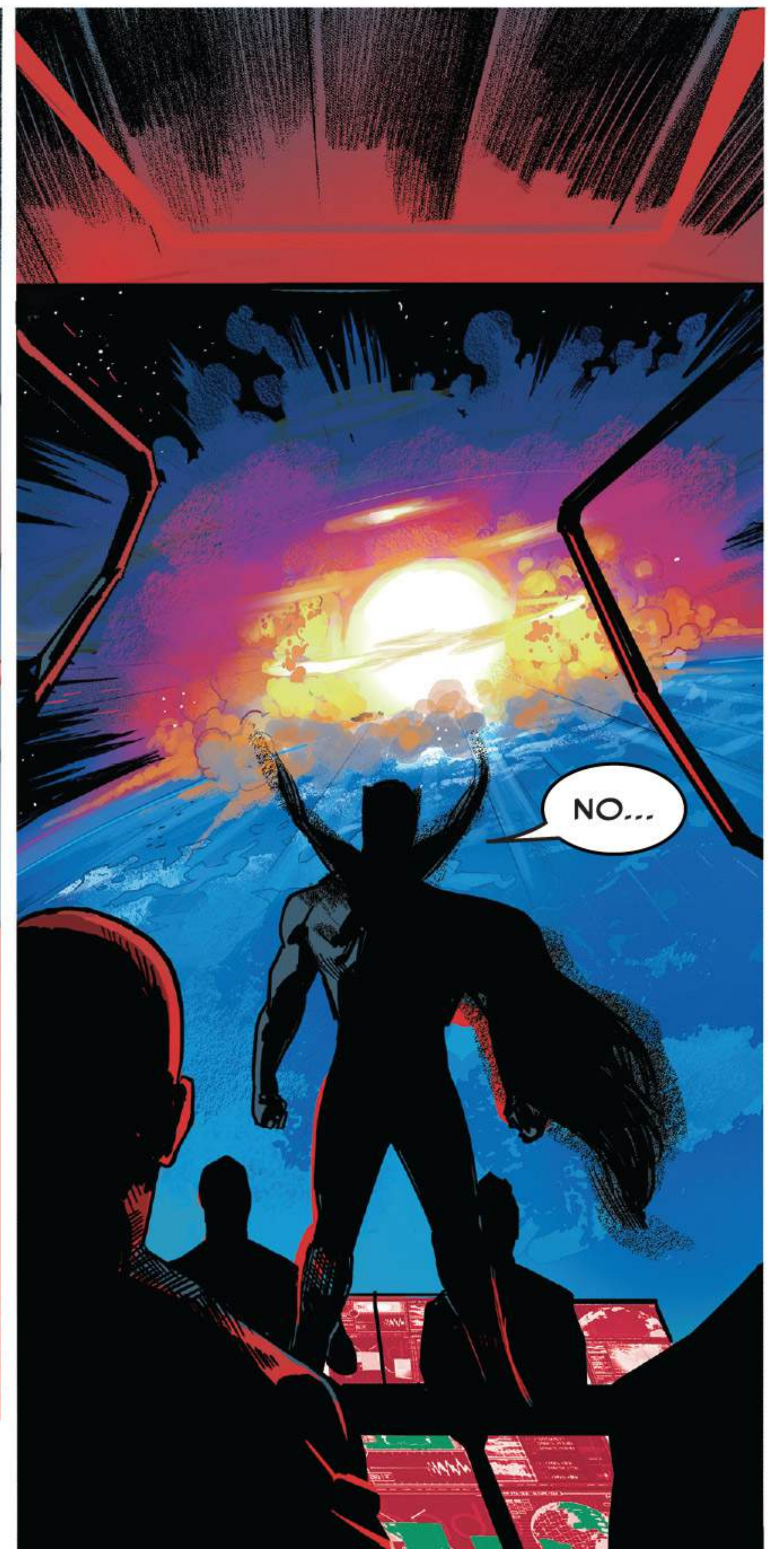
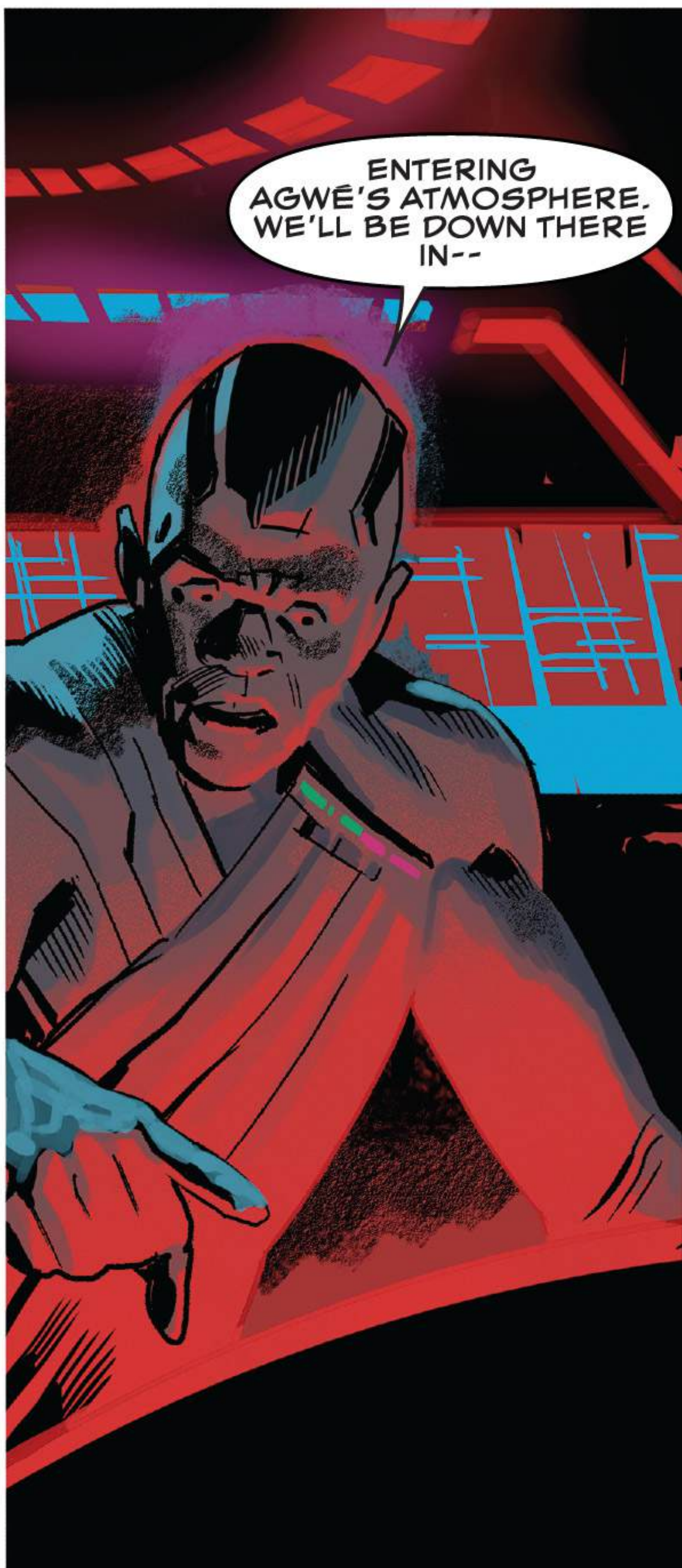
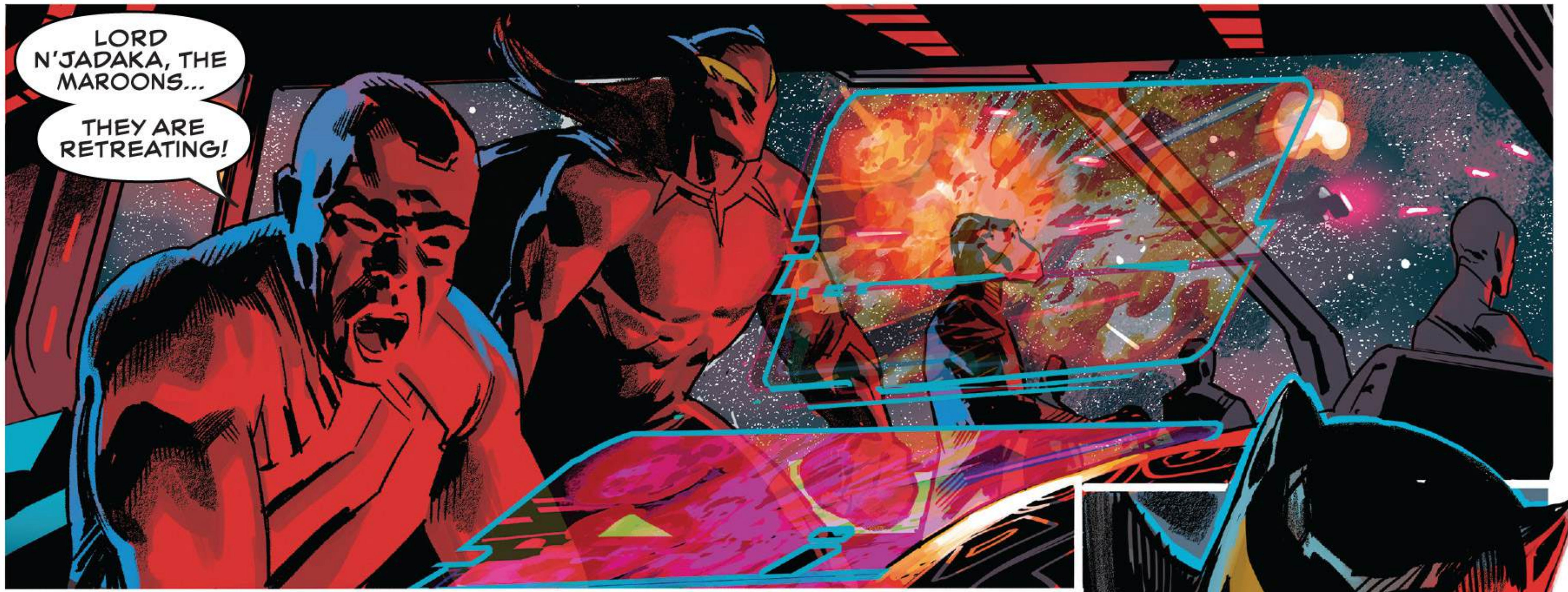


FAROUK!



HE'S GONE,
COMMANDER.











"THE THING I WANT YOU TO UNDERSTAND IS THAT NOTHING WAS WASTED."

"NOTHING WAS DONE IN VAIN."



"N'JADAKA'S DEATH DEMORALIZED THE IMPERIUM'S FORCES--"



"--AND BOLSTERED OUR OWN."



"WITHOUT AGWE'S SACRIFICE, WITHOUT FAROUK, THE ZANJ REGION WOULD STILL BE IN THE IMPERIUM'S THRALL..."

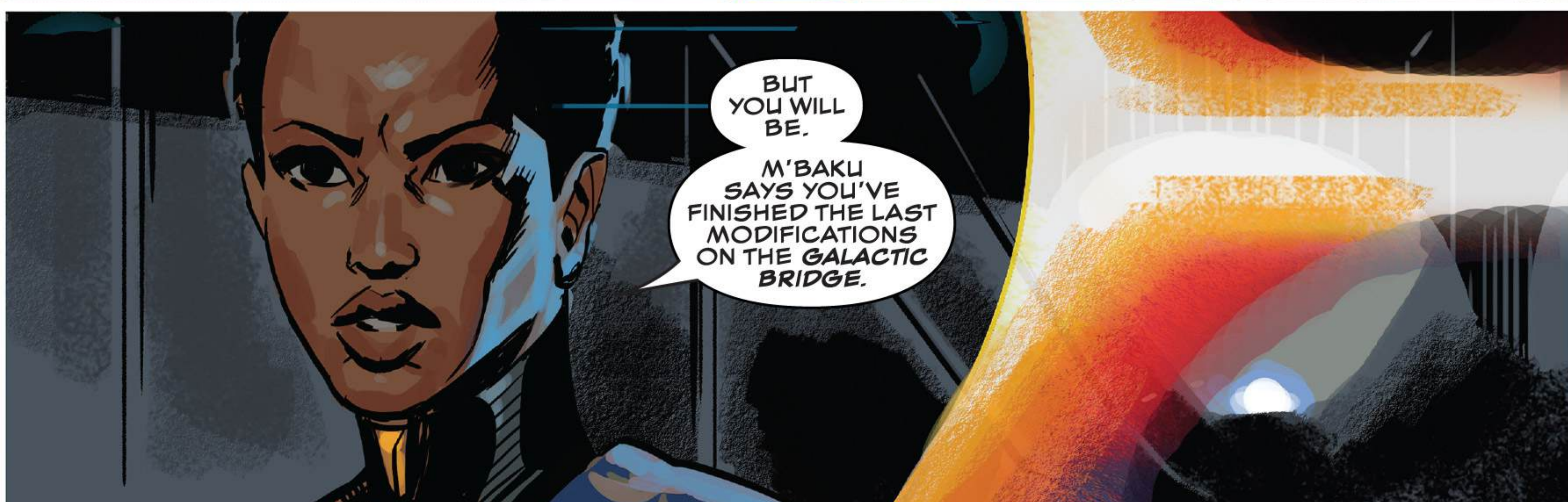


"...AND YOU MIGHT NEVER HAVE MADE IT BACK TO YOUR HOME, T'CHALLA."

THE MACKANDAL.



"I AM NOT THERE YET, NAKIA."

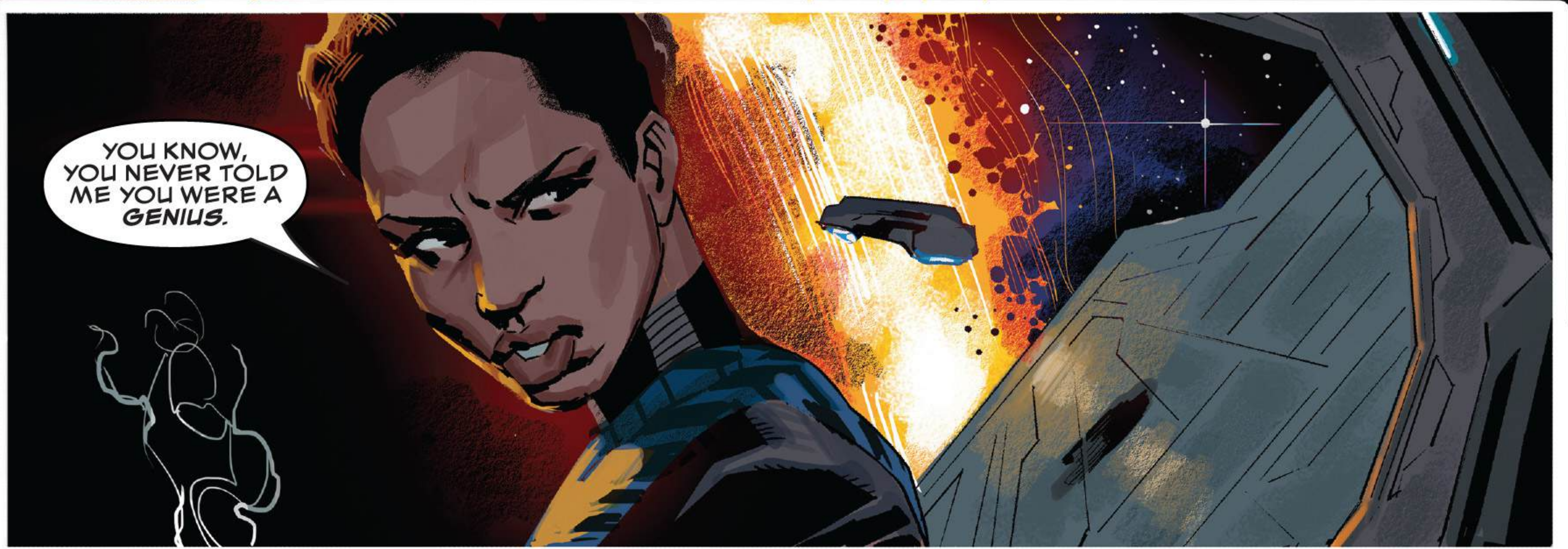


"BUT YOU WILL BE."

"M'BAKU SAYS YOU'VE FINISHED THE LAST MODIFICATIONS ON THE GALACTIC BRIDGE."



A "GALACTIC
BRIDGE." INCREIBLE.



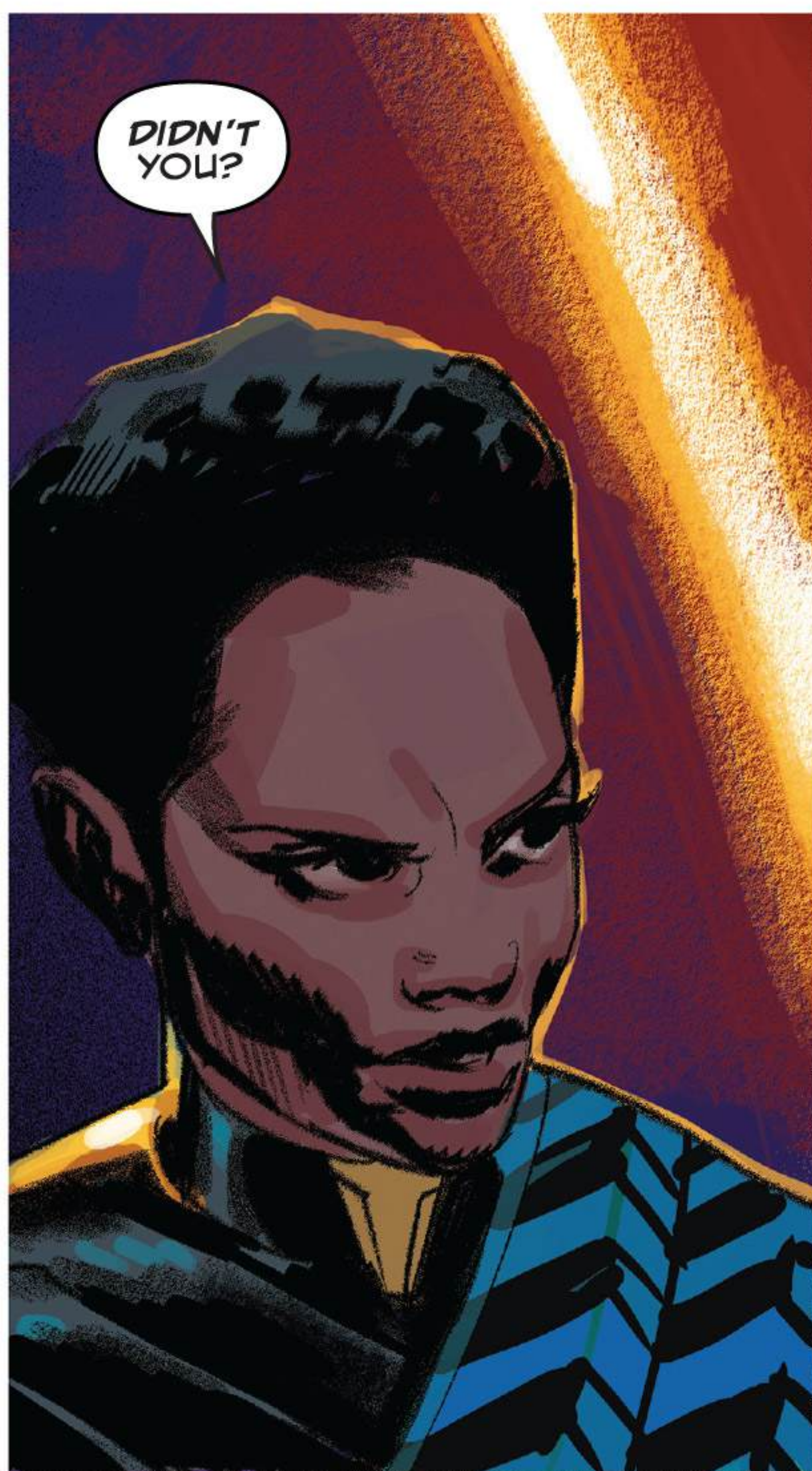
YOU KNOW,
YOU NEVER TOLD
ME YOU WERE A
GENIUS.



I...I
DID NOT
KNOW.



I DID NOT
KNOW A LOT
OF THINGS.



DIDN'T YOU?



"YOUR VISIONS?
THE MYTH?"



WE BOTH
KNEW, T'CHALLA.
WE JUST DID
NOT WANT TO
BELIEVE.



IT DOES NOT MATTER NOW.
SOON I DEPART FOR OUR
MOON BASE. YOU WILL
FORGIVE ME IF I DO
NOT TRAVEL TO EARTH
WITH YOU.

SOMEHOW,
I DO NOT
THINK I WOULD
MAKE THE BEST
AMBASSADOR
AT THE
MOMENT.



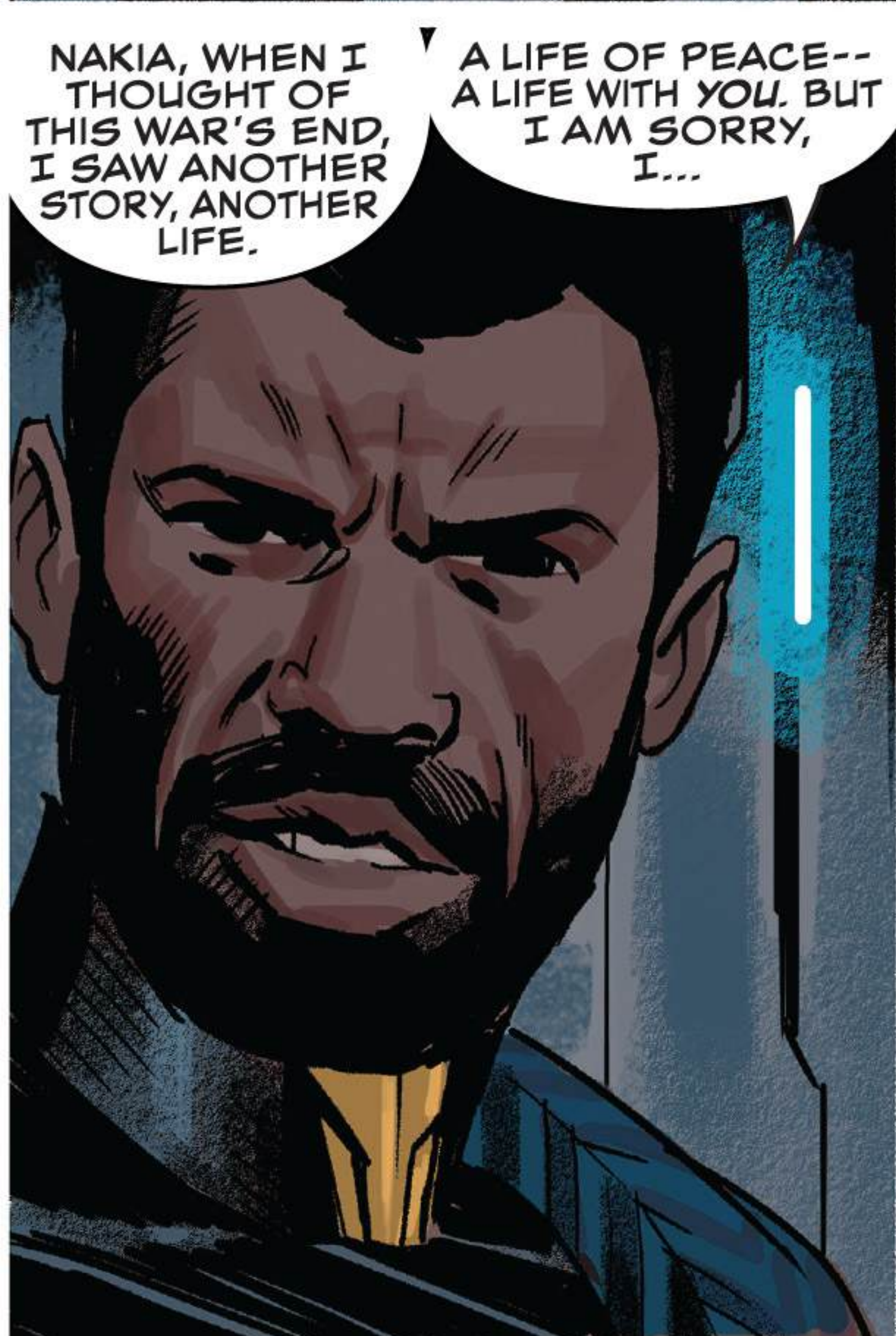
I...
KNOW.

I UNDERSTAND
SO MUCH MORE
NOW: THE ORISHA,
THE MYTHS, THE
PROPHECY.



BUT UNDERSTANDING
IS NOT COMFORT. I
REMEMBER NOW, AND
THERE IS A WEIGHT
TO THAT.

NONETHELESS,
THERE ARE THINGS
WHICH MUST BE SAID.
MATTERS WHICH I WOULD
HAVE UNDERSTOOD BY YOU.



NAKIA, WHEN I
THOUGHT OF
THIS WAR'S END,
I SAW ANOTHER
STORY, ANOTHER
LIFE.

A LIFE OF PEACE--
A LIFE WITH YOU. BUT
I AM SORRY,
I...



YOU
DON'T HAVE TO
SAY IT. YOU DON'T
HAVE TO SAY
ANYTHING.

I'M
A SOLDIER--
AND NOTHING IS
EVER PROMISED
TO SOLDIERS.



LEAST OF
ALL THE RIGHT
TO END THEIR
OWN STORY.



TAKU,
HOW ARE WE
LOOKING?

WELL, I
WON'T PRETEND
TO KNOW HOW HE DID
IT, COMMANDER
M'BAKU...



...BUT
T'CHALLA'S
MATH CHECKS
OUT.

OF COURSE
IT DOES. MY
BROTHER IS NO
FOOL. WAKANDA
PRIME--OUR
WAKANDA--IS ON
THE OTHER SIDE
OF THAT
BRIDGE.



YES,
PRINCESS SHURI.
WE'LL EMERGE IN
YOUR OUTER
SOLAR SYSTEM AND
THEN MAKE THE
SHORT JOURNEY
TO THIS "EARTH"
OF YOURS.

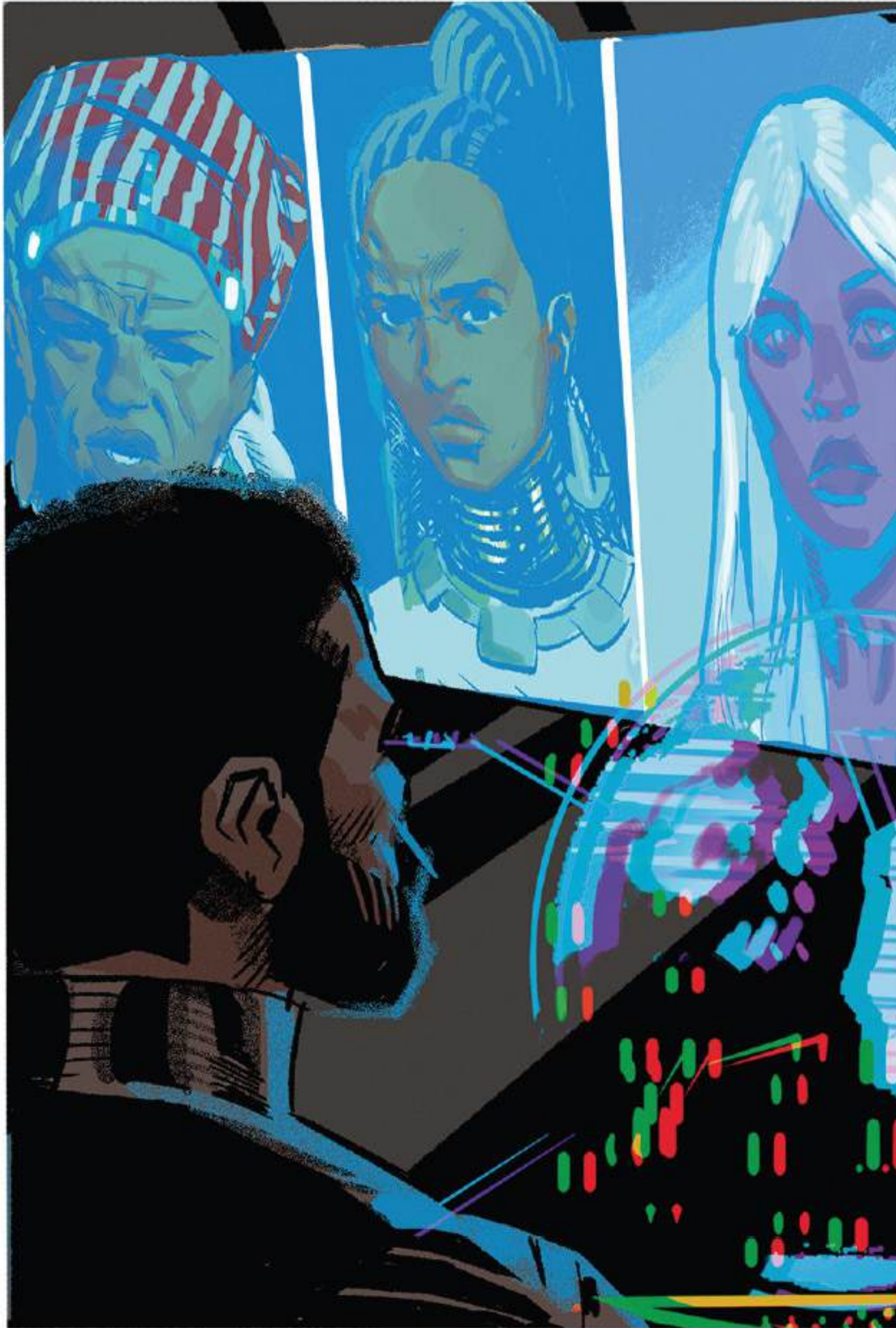


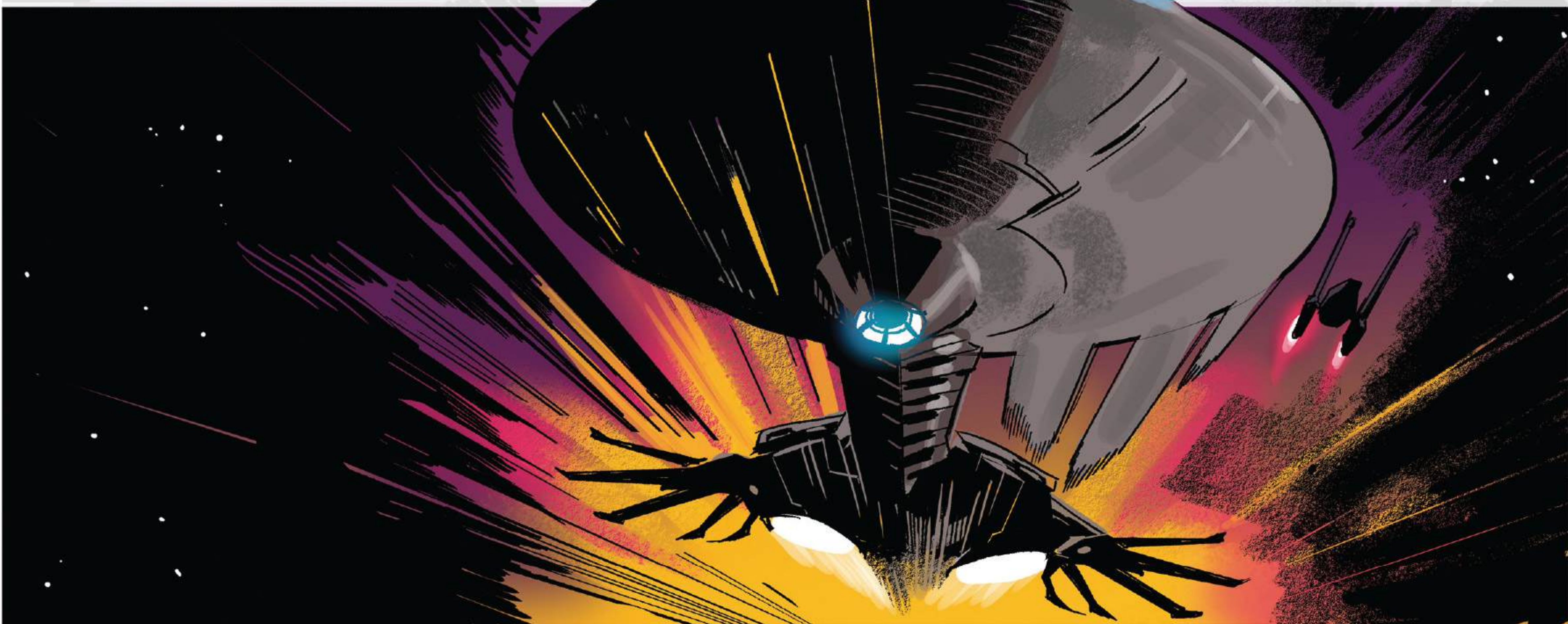
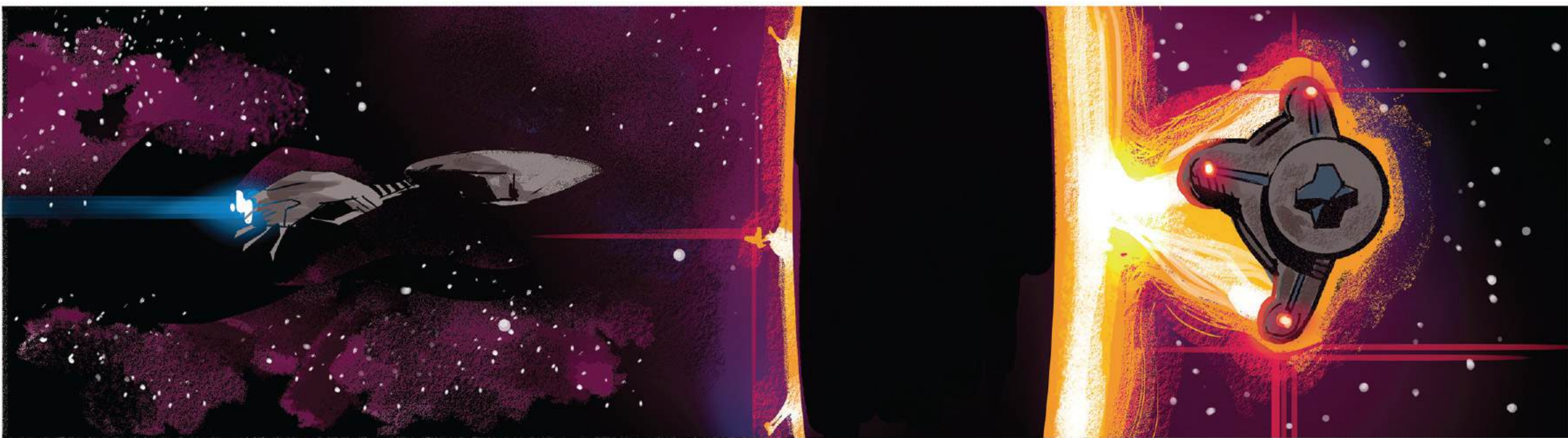
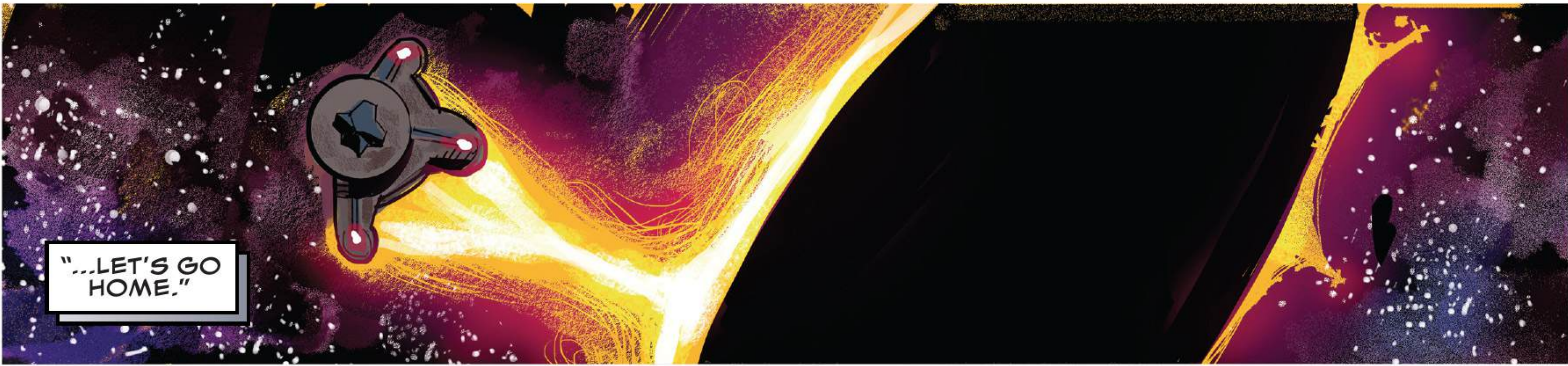
AND NOT A
MOMENT TOO
SOON.

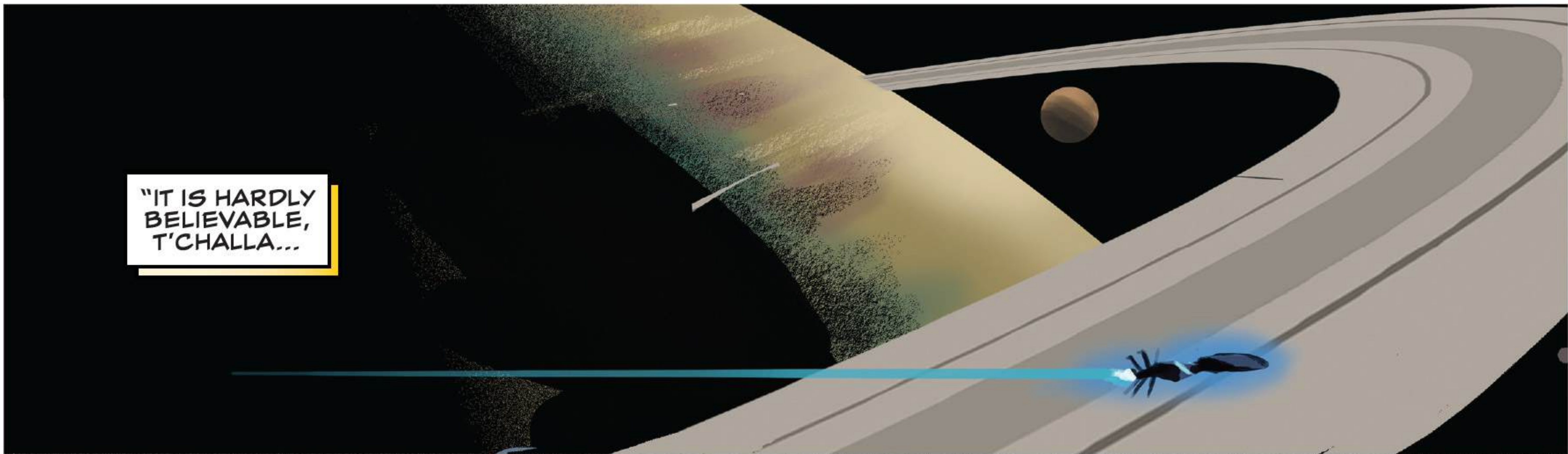
WAKANDA
LONGS FOR
ITS KING.



AND I
MISS MY
SON.



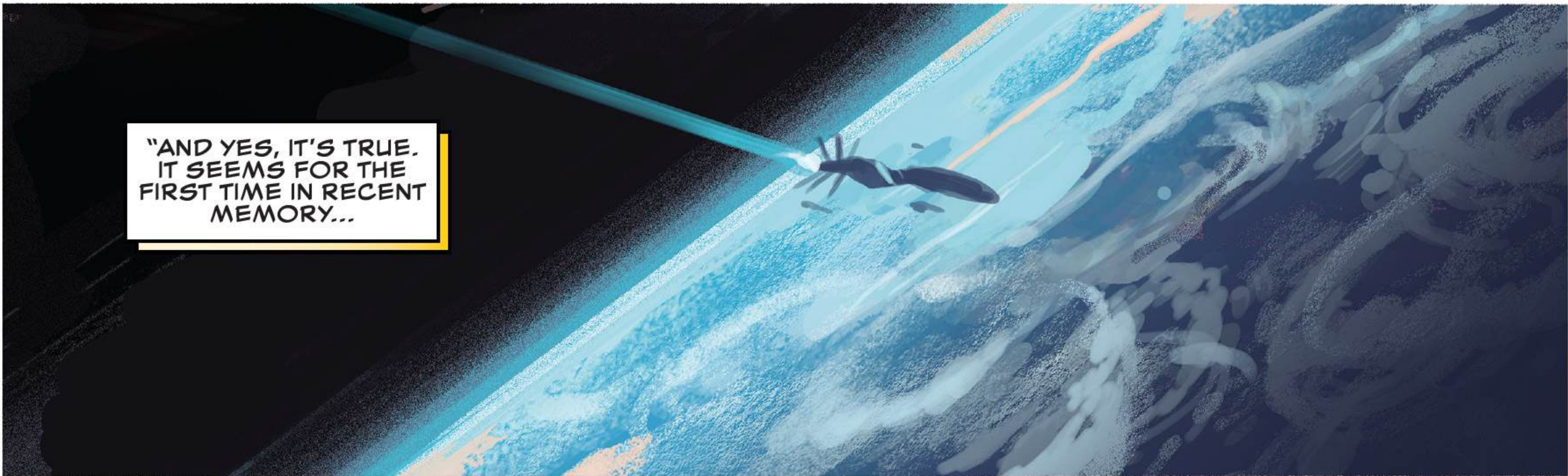




"IT IS HARDLY
BELIEVABLE,
T'CHALLA..."



"...BUT THE PEOPLE ARE
CALLING IT A *SECOND*
GOLDEN AGE."



"AND YES, IT'S TRUE.
IT SEEMS FOR THE
FIRST TIME IN RECENT
MEMORY..."



"...PEACE HAS COME
TO WAKANDA."

**BIRNIN ZANA,
WAKANDA PRIME,
EARTH.**





THE WORLD IS SO DANGEROUS. THE AMERICANS HAVE FALLEN UNDER THE SWAY OF VILLAINS AND THUGS.



WAKANDA COULD NO LONGER SAVE ITSELF AND LEAVE THE WORLD IN CHAOS-- FOR THE CHAOS WOULD SOON CONSUME US.

HYDRA TAUGHT US THAT.



IT IS THE MEMORY OF OUR PAST THAT TELLS US WHAT WE OWE TO OUR FUTURE.

AND WHAT WE OWE TO THE WORLD.



AND NOT JUST THE WORLD, SHURI...



I CANNOT BEGIN TO TELL YOU WHAT I SAW OUT THERE, HOW WAKANDA HAS GONE FROM A COUNTRY TO AN IDEA THAT SPANS GALAXIES.



YES. ANOTHER WAKANDA. PREMISED ON SLAVERY AND TYRANNY.



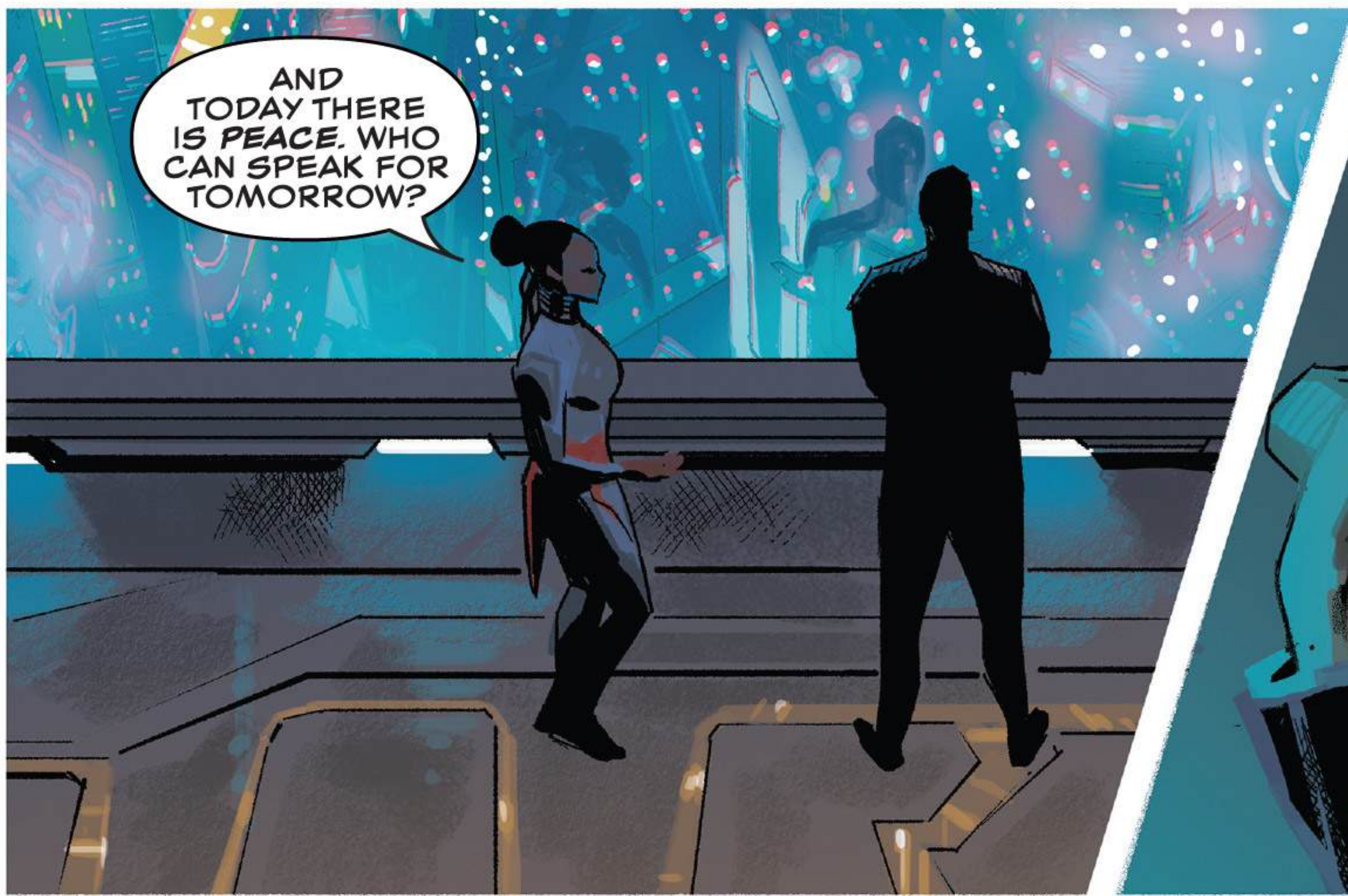
NO. IT'S OUR WAKANDA. THE WORMHOLE DISTORTED TIME, PULLING THOSE EXPLORERS I HAD SENT INTO THE PAST.

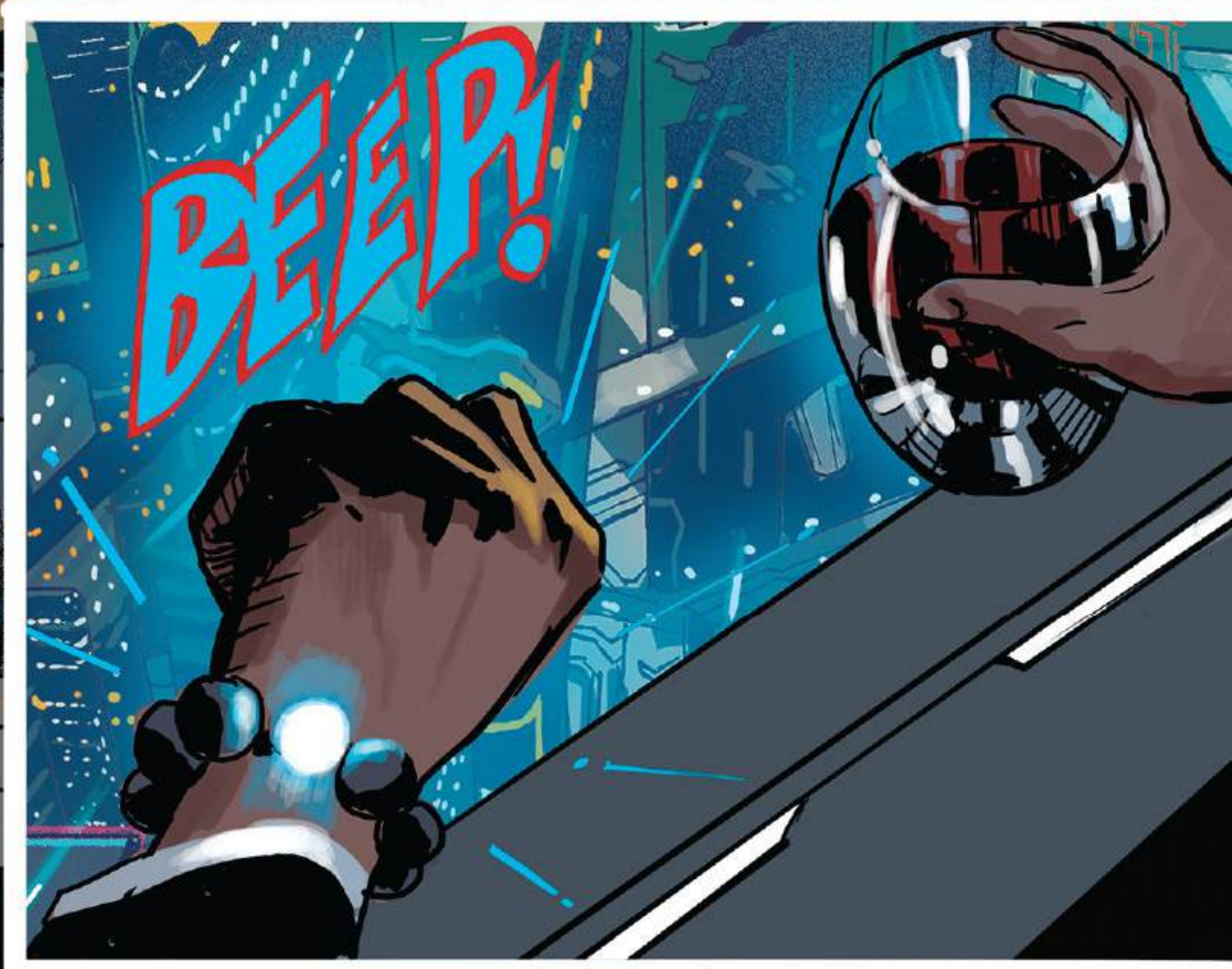
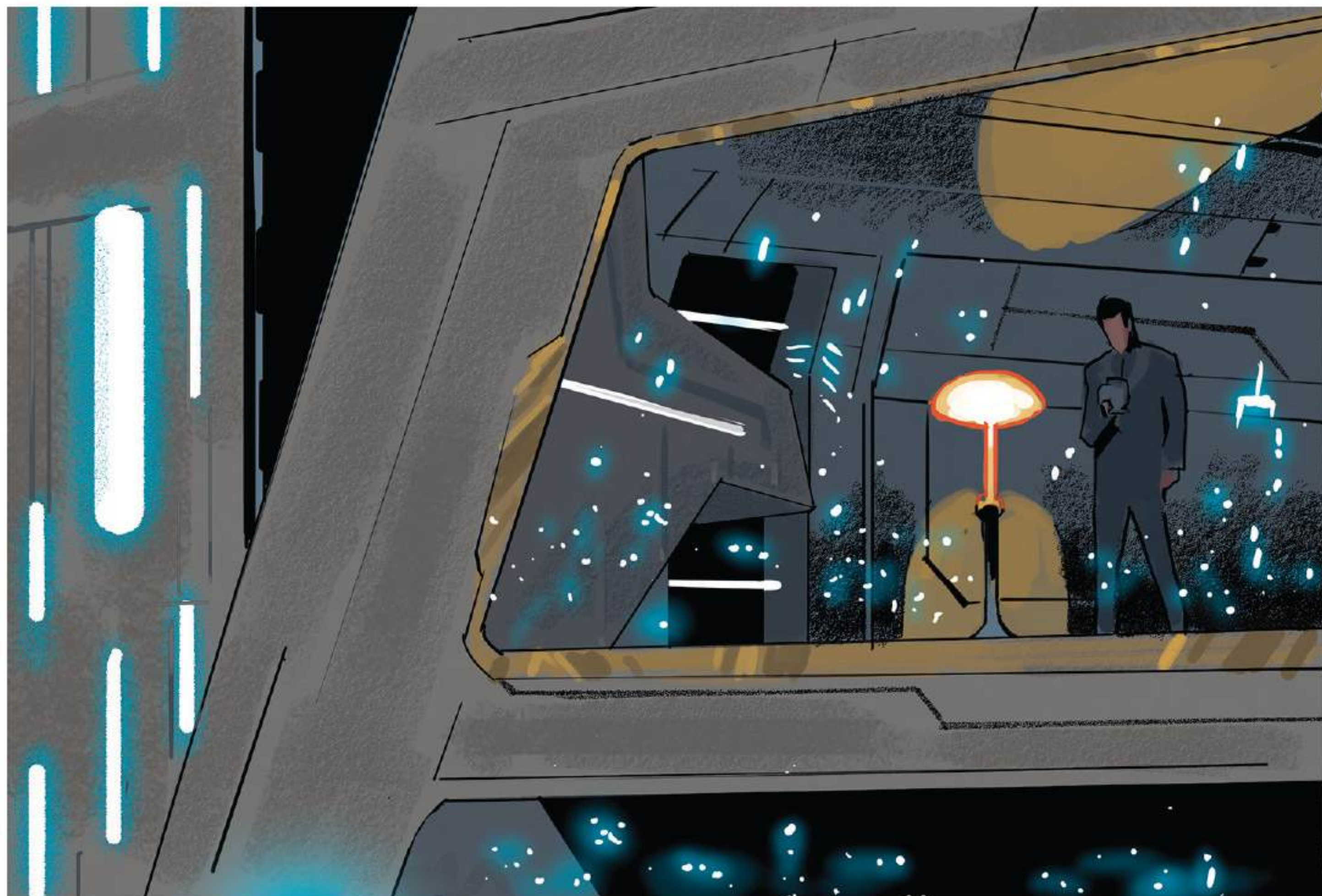
WE STARTED THE EMPIRE, SHURI. SO THEY ARE US-- JUST 2,000 YEARS AHEAD.

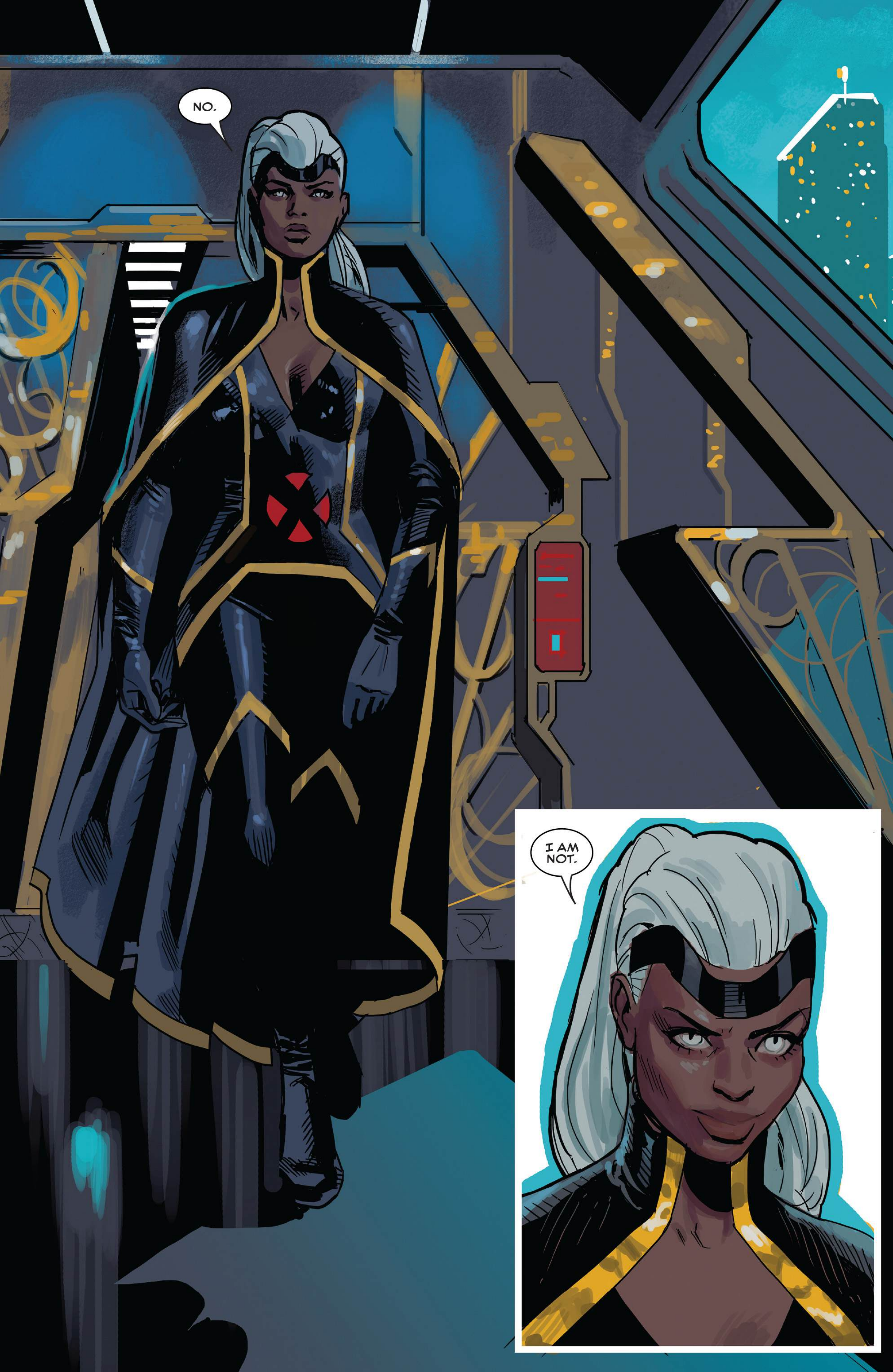


AND SO ATTRACTIVE WAS THEIR WAR-MAKING THAT OUR GODS DESERTED US FOR THEM.

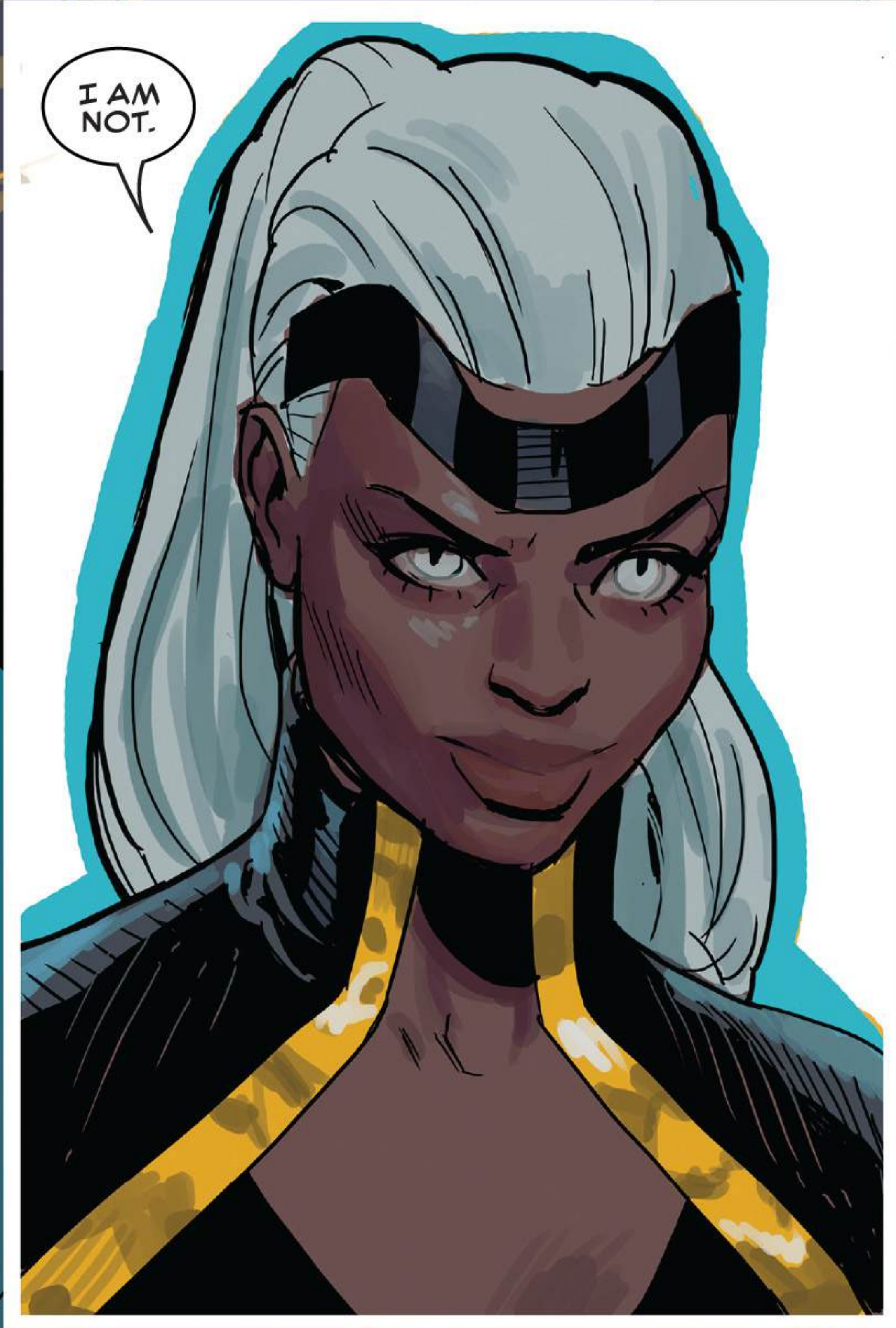
IS THAT OUR FUTURE? IS THAT WHO WE ARE FATED TO BECOME?





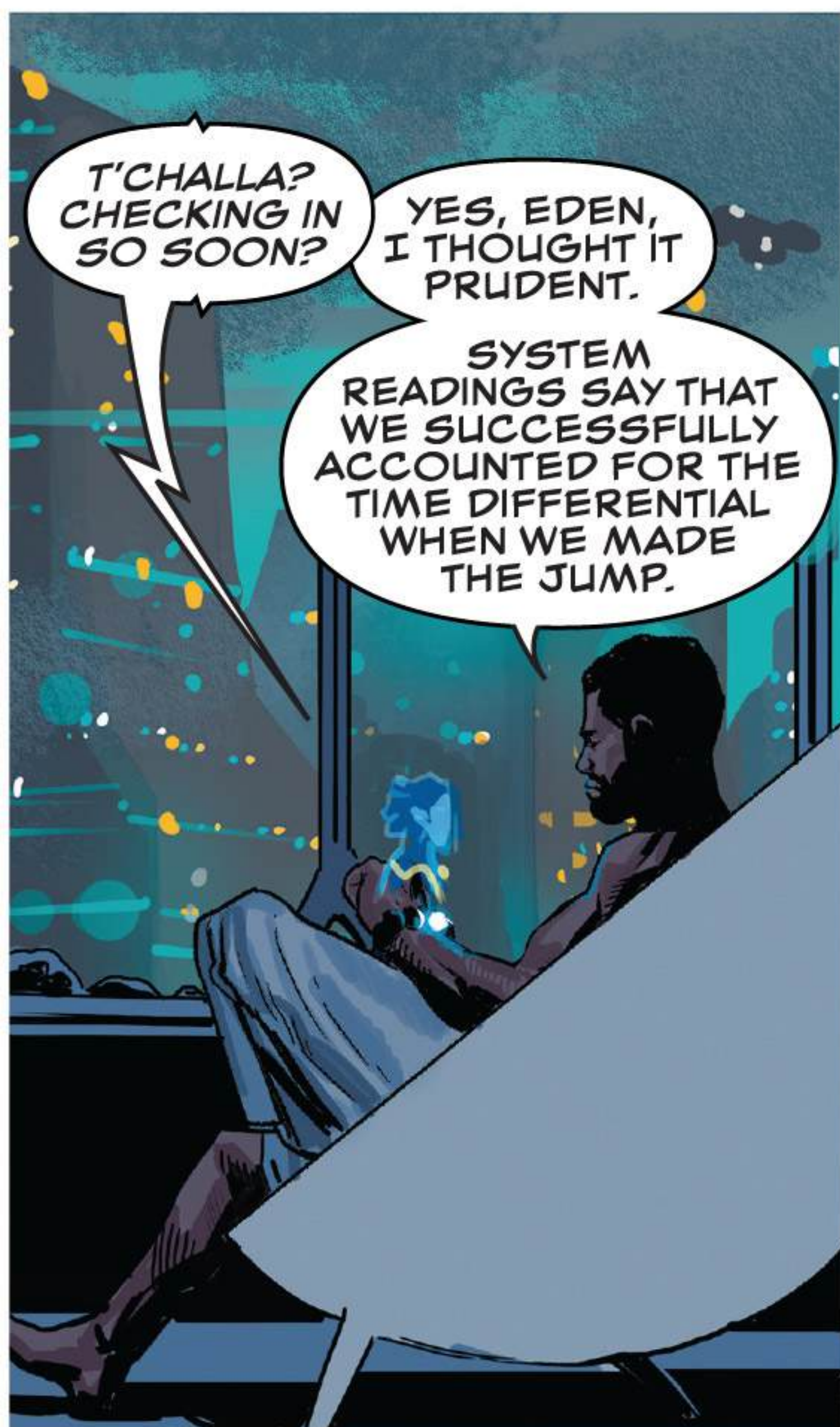


NO.



I AM NOT.

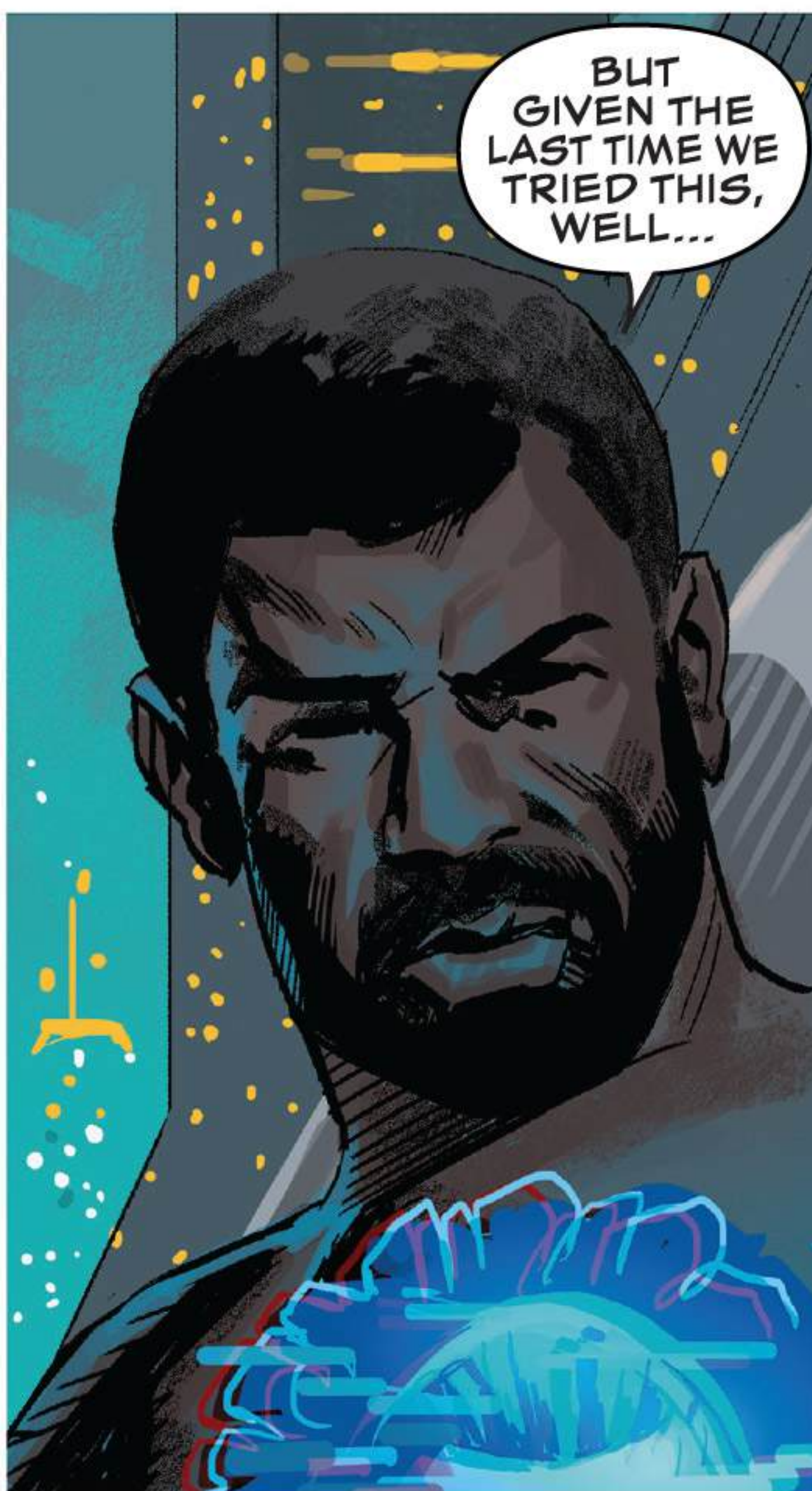




T'CHALLA?
CHECKING IN
SO SOON?

YES, EDEN,
I THOUGHT IT
PRUDENT.

SYSTEM
READINGS SAY THAT
WE SUCCESSFULLY
ACCOUNTED FOR THE
TIME DIFFERENTIAL
WHEN WE MADE
THE JUMP.



BUT
GIVEN THE
LAST TIME WE
TRIED THIS,
WELL....

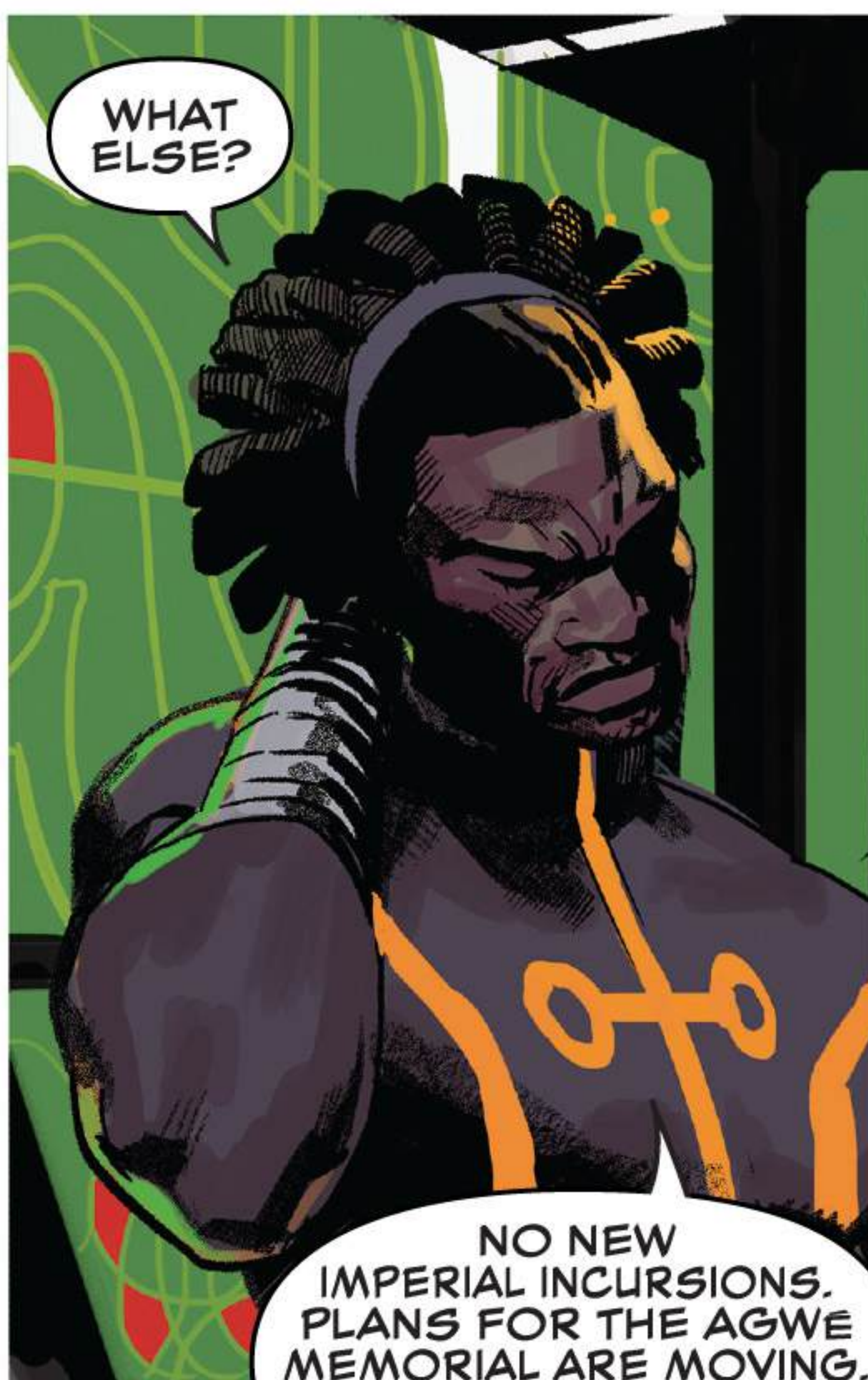


AS I SAID,
I THOUGHT
IT PRUDENT
TO VERIFY
THINGS.



ALL
GOOD BACK
HERE. NO TIME
LAG REPORTED
FOR NOW.

THOUGH
THE TEMPORAL
PHYSICS OF THIS
PLACE ARE
SCREWY.



WHAT
ELSE?

NO NEW
IMPERIAL INCURSIONS.
PLANS FOR THE AGWE
MEMORIAL ARE MOVING.



OH,
THERE WAS
ONE OTHER
THING.

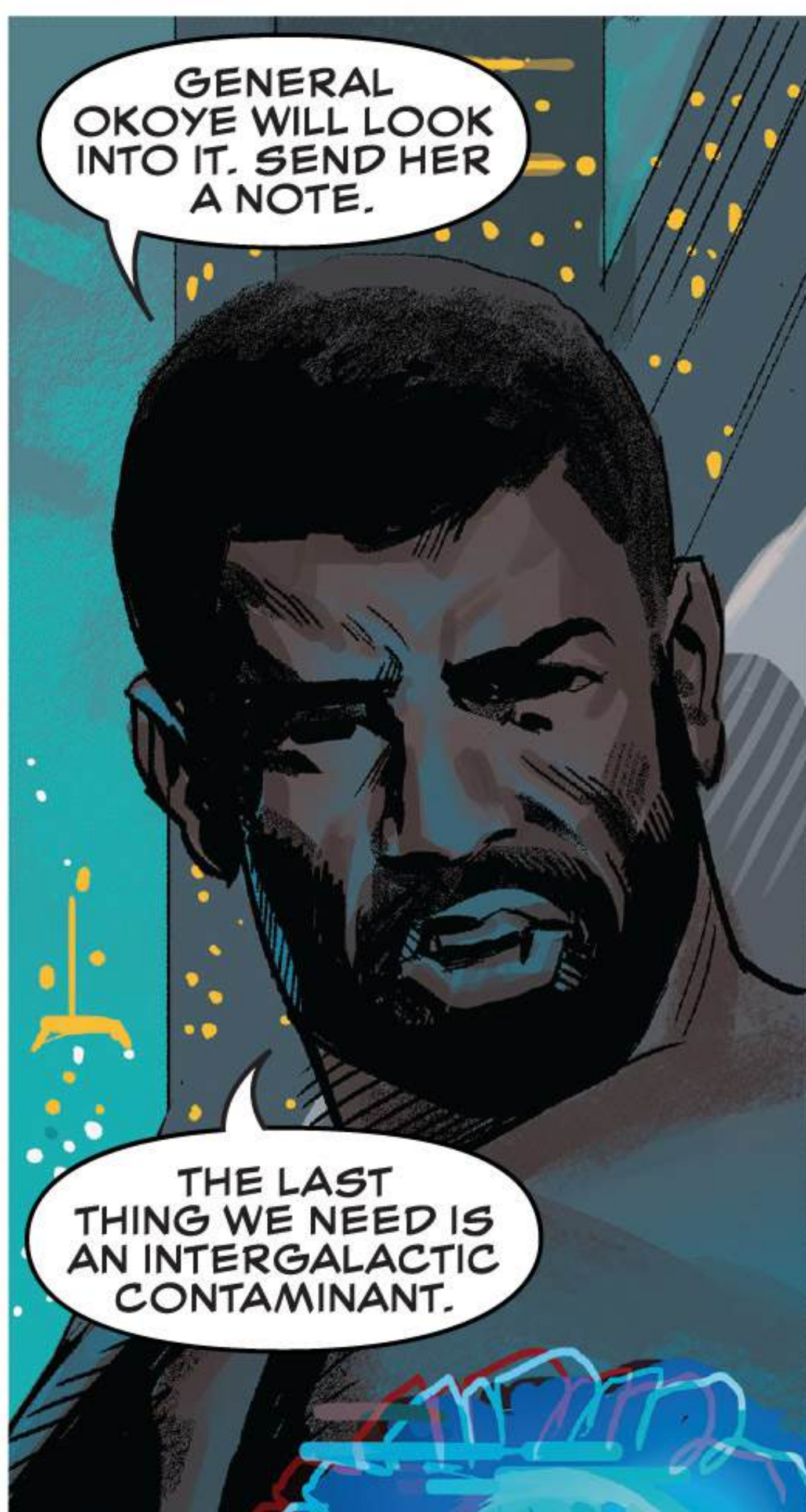
SOME
SORT OF
BIO-ANOMALY
REGISTERED ON
THE SENSORS
JUST BEFORE THE
MACKANDAL MADE
THE JUMP TO
EARTH.



YES, I SAW
THAT. HAVE YOU
DISCERNED ITS
NATURE?

WE'RE NOT
SURE YET. TAKU
SAYS IT ONLY
REGISTERED FOR
A MOMENT.

PERHAPS
YOU SHOULD
HAVE A LOOK
ON YOUR
SIDE?



GENERAL
OKOYE WILL LOOK
INTO IT. SEND HER
A NOTE.

THE LAST
THING WE NEED IS
AN INTERGALACTIC
CONTAMINANT.



ON IT.
SO HOW'S
IT FEEL TO BE
BACK?



STRANGE.
INCREDIBLY,
INCREDIBLY
STRANGE.

I REMEMBER
EVERYTHING, I DO,
BUT "REMEMBER"
UNDERSTATES
THINGS.



IT IS AS
THOUGH I'VE
DISCOVERED
A PAST LIFE.



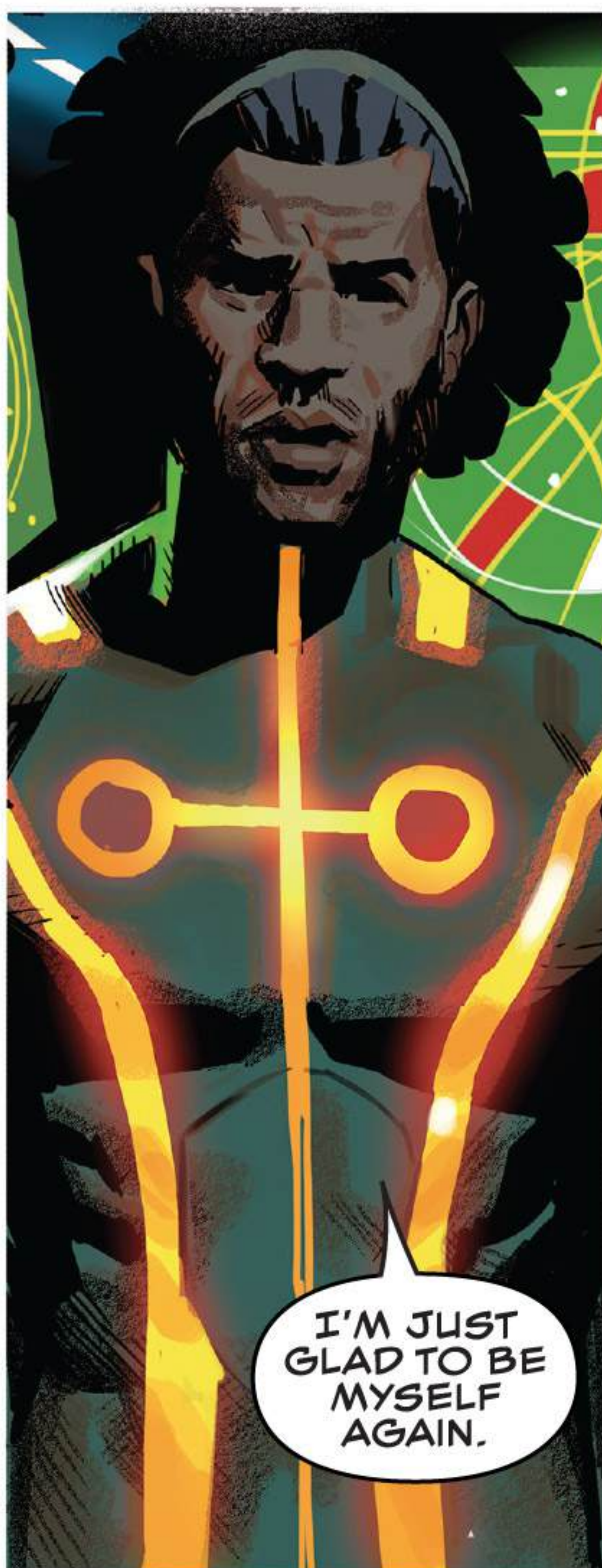
YEAH...

TRY FIGURING
THAT OUT WHILE
YOU'RE STILL IN THE
CLUTCHES OF THE
IMPERIALS.



I HADN'T
SO MUCH
FORGOTTEN AS
PART OF ME WAS
REPPRESSED,
CAGED IN MY
OWN MIND.

I KEPT
SCREAMING...
AND...WELL...



I'M JUST
GLAD TO BE
MYSELF
AGAIN.



INDEED.

I SHOULD
PROBABLY
TREASURE THAT.
IT DID NOT HAVE TO
BE THIS WAY. WE
ARE SO VERY
LUCKY.

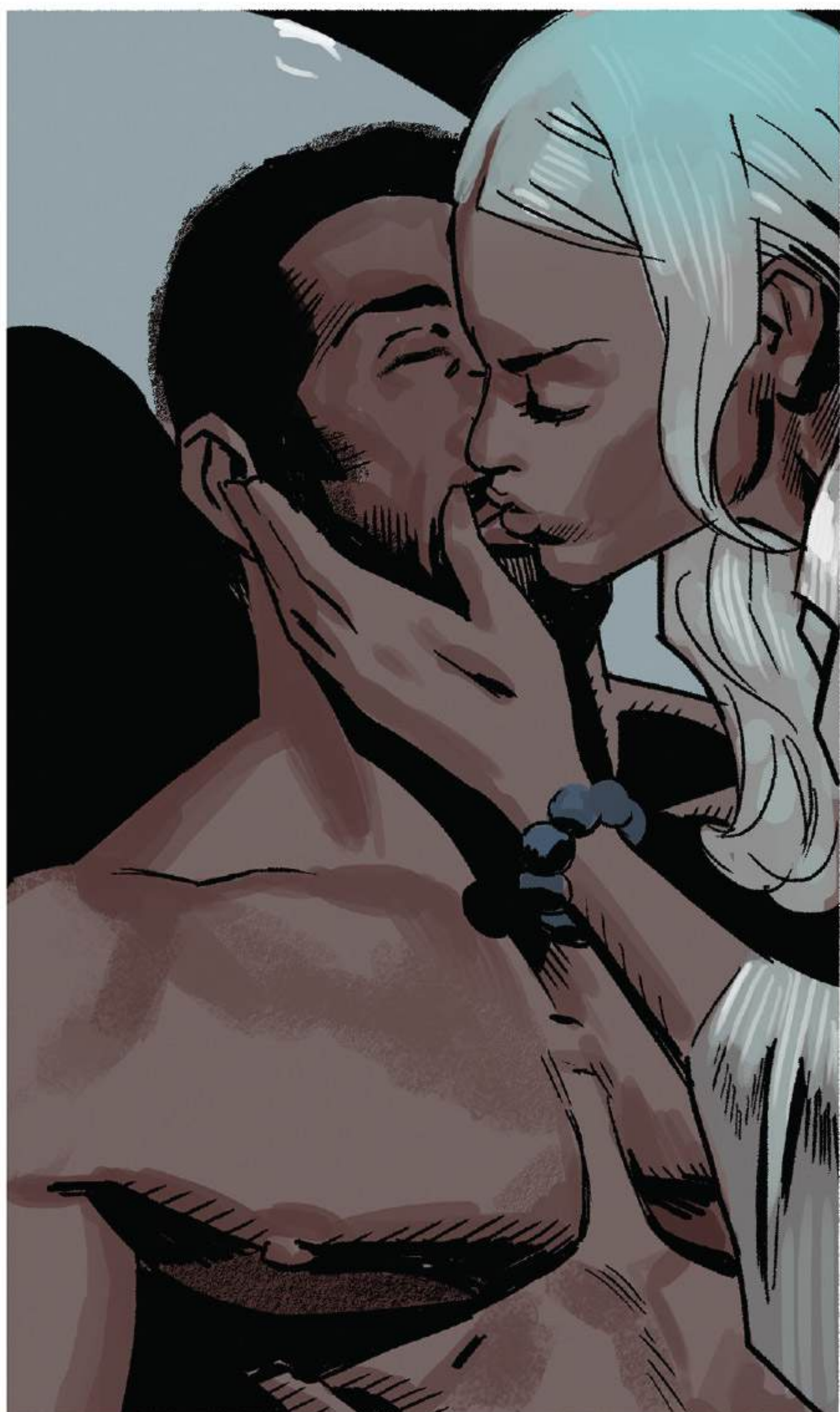


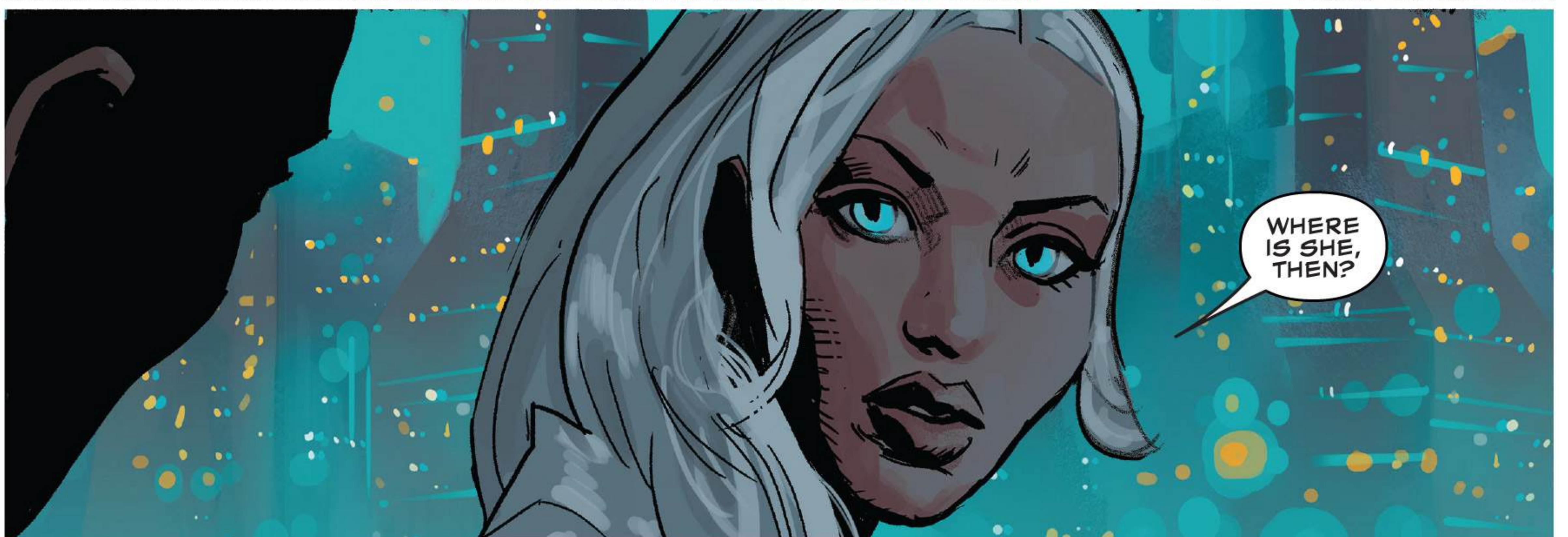
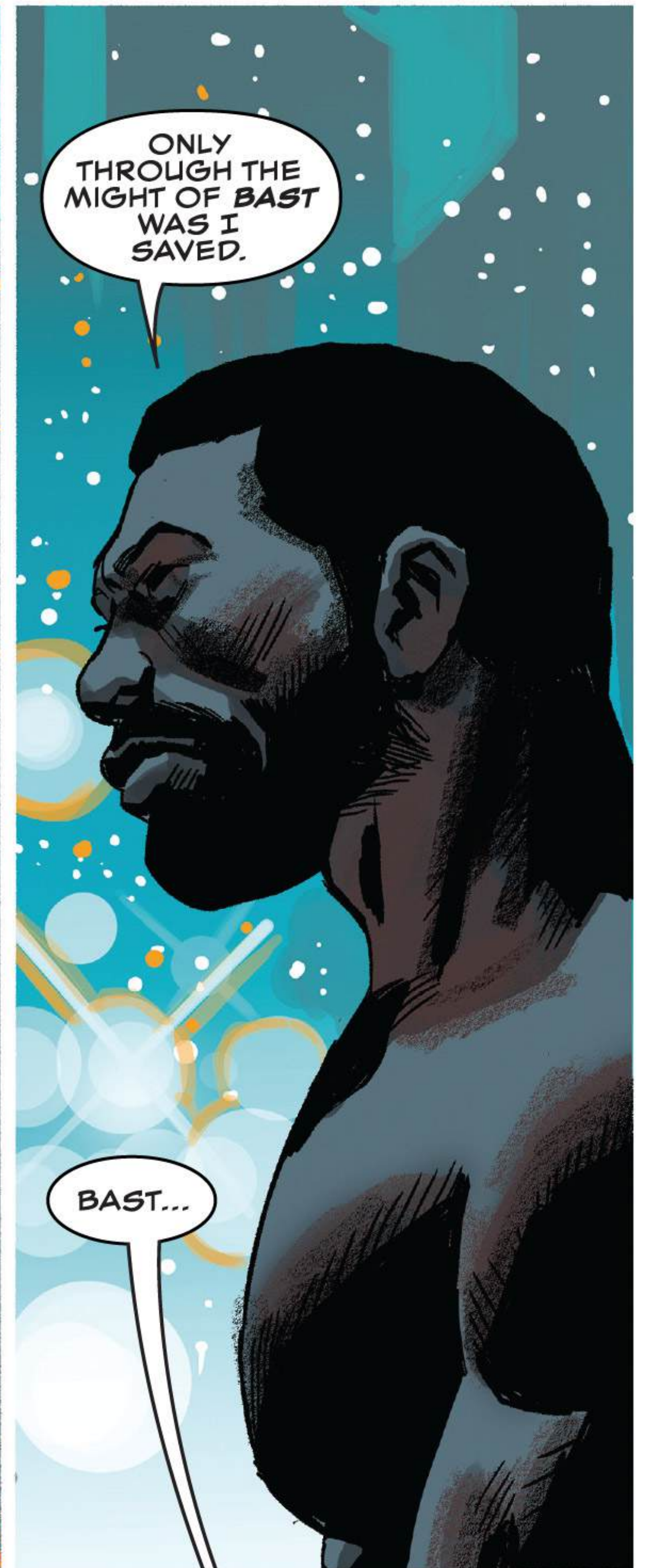
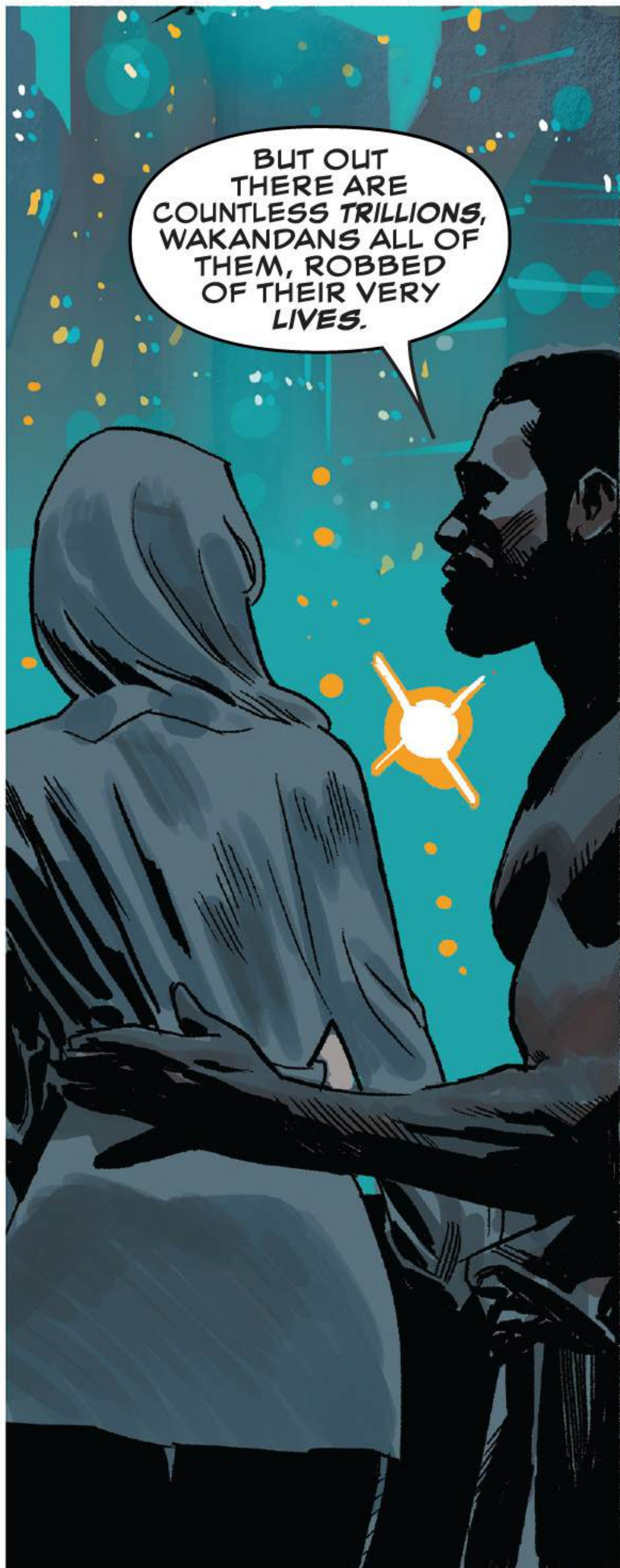
EDEN,
I SHOULD
GO.

YEP, YOU
SHOULD. ONE
LAST THING,
T'CHALLA...



WILL YOU
PLEASE GIVE
SHURI MY
BEST?







"THE OTHER ORISHA HAVE RETURNED TO THEIR FOLLOWERS. AND YET WE HAVE NOT HEARD A PEEP FROM BAST."

NO ANOMALY REGISTERING, GENERAL OKOYE.

KEEP LOOKING.



I DON'T FULLY UNDERSTAND.

I THINK BAST'S STRUGGLE WITH N'JADAKA TOOK MORE FROM HER THAN SHE IS SAYING.



UNDERSTOOD, GENERAL. COMMENCING DIRECT INSPECTION OF THE MACKANDAL.



OR PERHAPS SHE IS NOT ACTUALLY BAST AT ALL, BUT MERELY A TROUBLED GIRL.



NO, SHE IS BAST. OF THAT I AM CERTAIN.

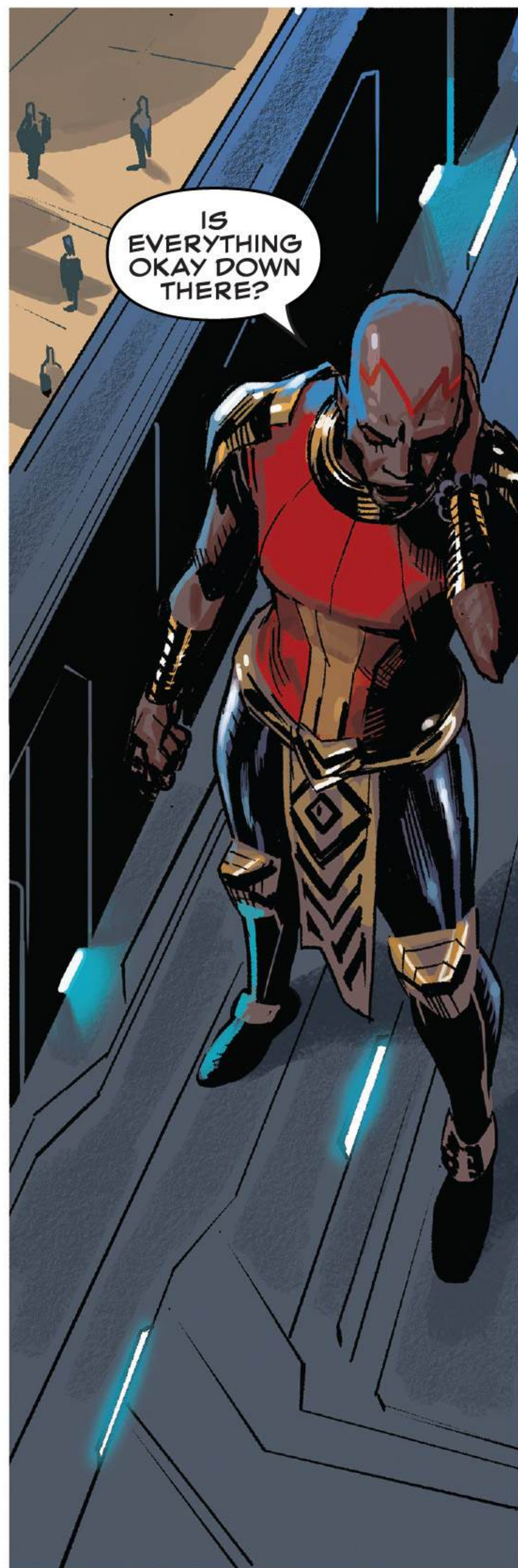
THE CONNECTION BETWEEN US IS AS STRONG AS EVER. STILL...



"...SOMETHING HAS CHANGED."



WHAT IN--



"...THE ONE SURE
THING IS TROUBLE."







**THE WILDERNESS JUST
OUTSIDE BIRNIN AZZARIA.**

HOW DOES
THE WORK GO,
CHANGAMIRE?



POORLY, MY
LOVE. CHRONICLING
WAKANDA'S EMERGING
DEMOCRACY IS HARD
ENOUGH.

BUT WORSE,
EVEN OUT HERE MY
STUDENTS TRACK
ME DOWN.



THEN PERHAPS
A TRUE VACATION? SAY,
THE MOUNTAINS OF THE
JABARI-LANDS?

I'D LOVE TO,
BUT I CAN'T
JUST LEAVE MY
STUDENTS. I
HAVE TO--

**KNOCK!
KNOCK!**



~SIGH~
KHADIJAH,
WE'LL HAVE
TO TALK
LATER.

**KNOCK!
KNOCK!**



I'M
COMING!



WHAT IN
BAST...



YES...
YES...



THIS
WILL DO
NICELY.



UHHH...

FOR
BRINGING ME
HERE...



...YOUR
EMPEROR
THANKS
YOU.



WHAT...
PLEASE...





**THE DJALIA,
THE PLANE OF
WAKANDAN
MEMORY.**



IT'S TOO MUCH TO ASK, MOTHER!



NOTHING IS TOO MUCH TO ASK WHEN IT COMES TO SAFEGUARDING A NATION, SHURI.



WHAT NATION?



I DON'T KNOW THE PEOPLE OF THIS DISTANT WAKANDA.



HOW MANY MEN HAVE Sired CHILDREN THEY DO NOT KNOW?



TACK!

DOES THIS MAKE THEM ANY LESS RESPONSIBLE?



TACK!

I HAVE Sired NOTHING!





SO
THIS IS IT,
THEN?

SHURI--THE
AJA-ADANNA,
THE BEARER OF ALL
WAKANDAN MYTH--
AN ISLAND ONCE
AGAIN?

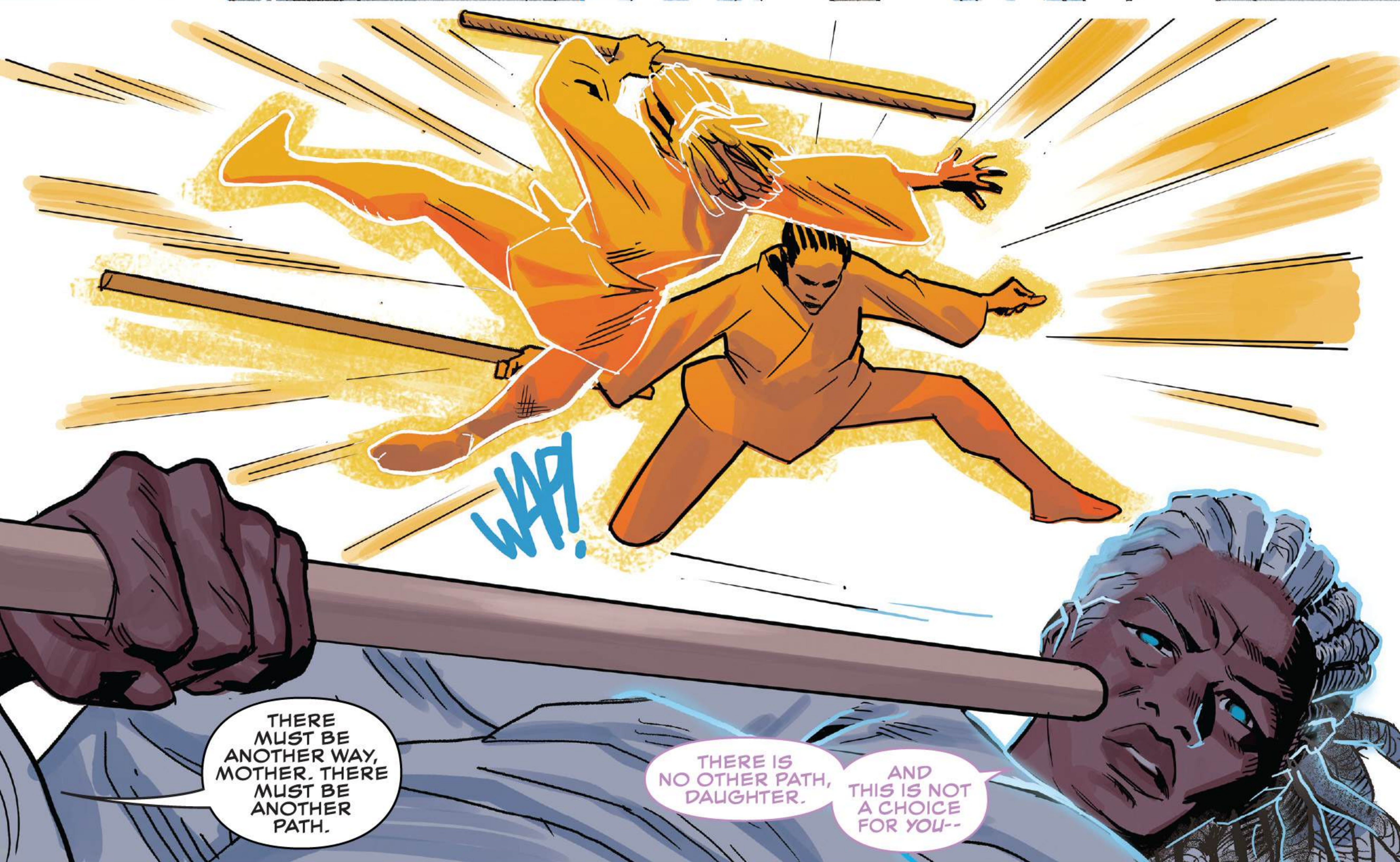
HAVE
YOU LEARNED
NOTHING?

THAT'S
NOT WHAT I
MEANT.

I KNOW
PRECISELY
WHAT YOU
MEANT.

IT WAS
T'CHALLA WHO
BROUGHT THIS
BURDEN. BUT ALL
OF WAKANDA
WILL BEAR IT.

I WILL
NOT ALLOW
IT!



"--IT IS FOR
YOUR KING."





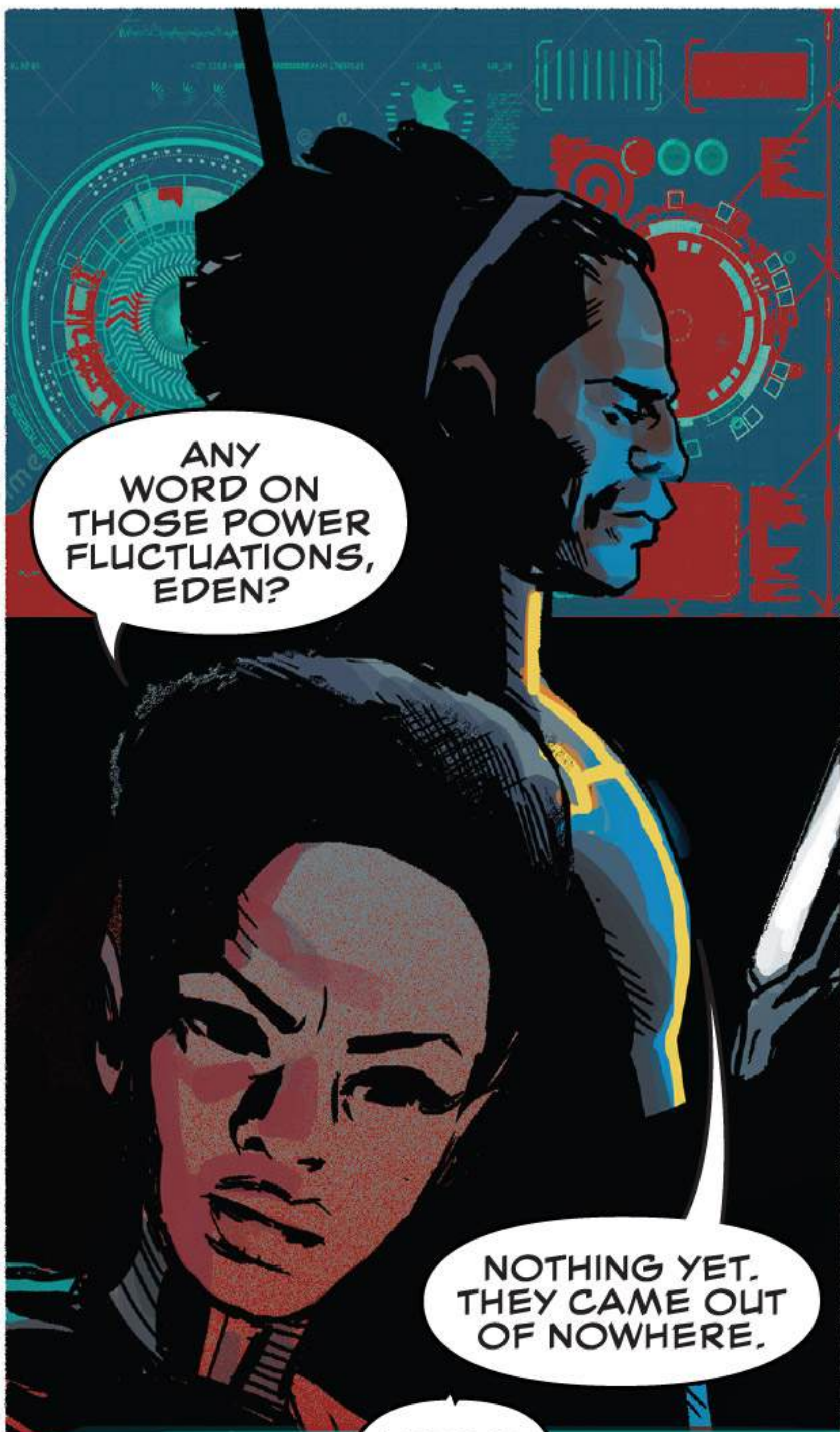
I ASSURE YOU
I AM ENJOYING
THIS NO MORE THAN
YOU, NAKIA, BUT THERE
IS NO NEED FOR
THE HOSTILITY.

NOT
HOSTILITY,
OKOYE...



...ANNOYANCE.
I HAVE TO MANAGE
THINGS HERE AT OUR
MOON BASE AND
BRIEF YOU AT THE
SAME TIME.

I SUSPECT
IF YOU WERE
CHARGED WITH
PUTTING OUT TWO
FIRES AT ONCE,
YOU'D ALSO BE
ANNOYED.



ANY
WORD ON
THOSE POWER
FLUCTUATIONS,
EDEN?

NOTHING YET.
THEY CAME OUT
OF NOWHERE.

YOUNG
LADY...



...OKOYE ASKED
FOR THE BRIEFING
NOW BECAUSE SHE
BELIEVED WE
COULD HELP.



WE HAVE
EXPERIENCED
CERTAIN--

BOOM

KRZZT



SIGH
AGAIN?



WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?



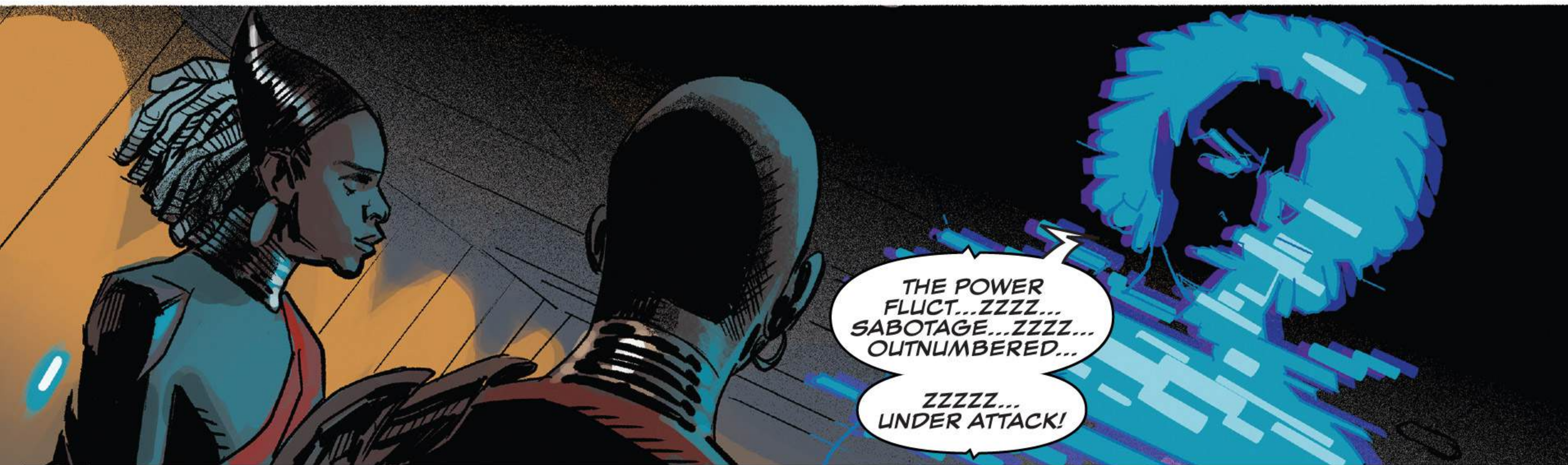
CHECKING NOW...



OH NO...



"FOUR FLIGHTS OF IMPERIAL FIGHTERS. PLANETSIDE!"

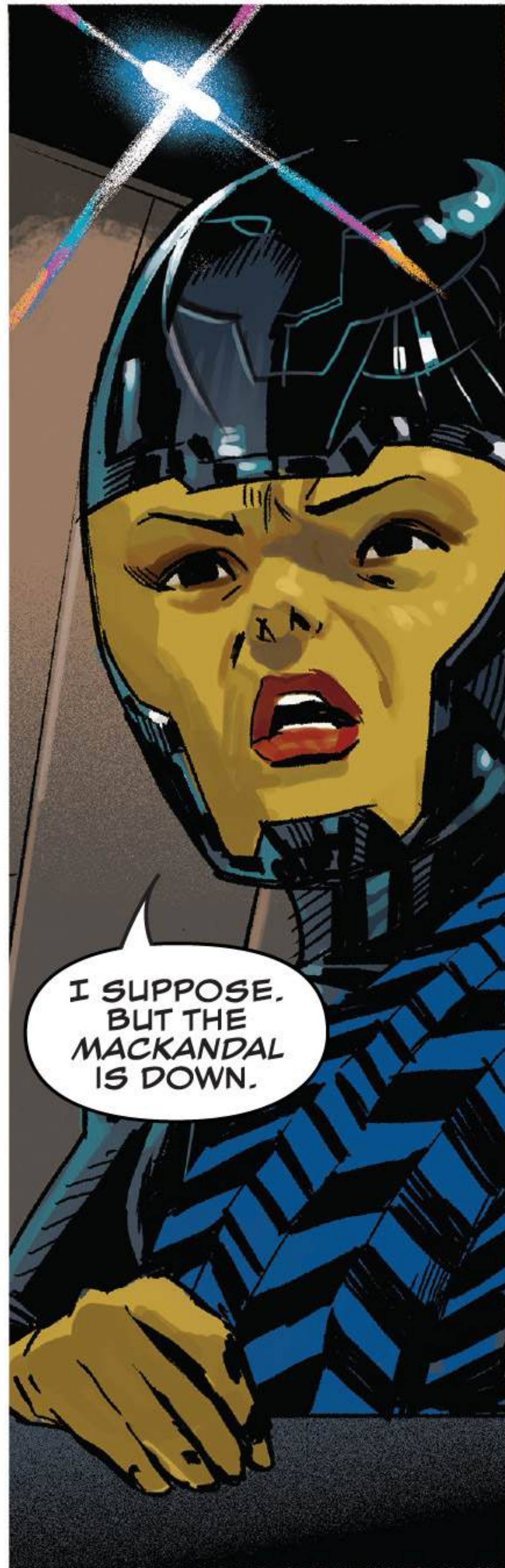
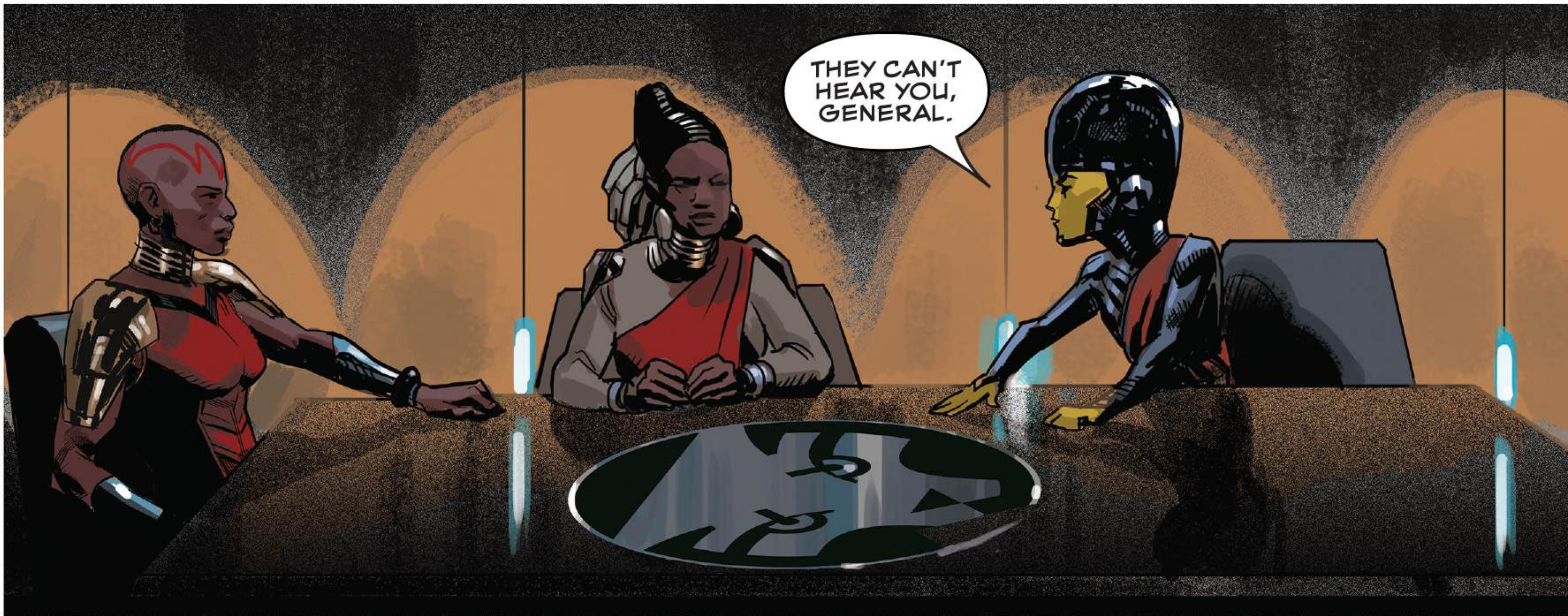


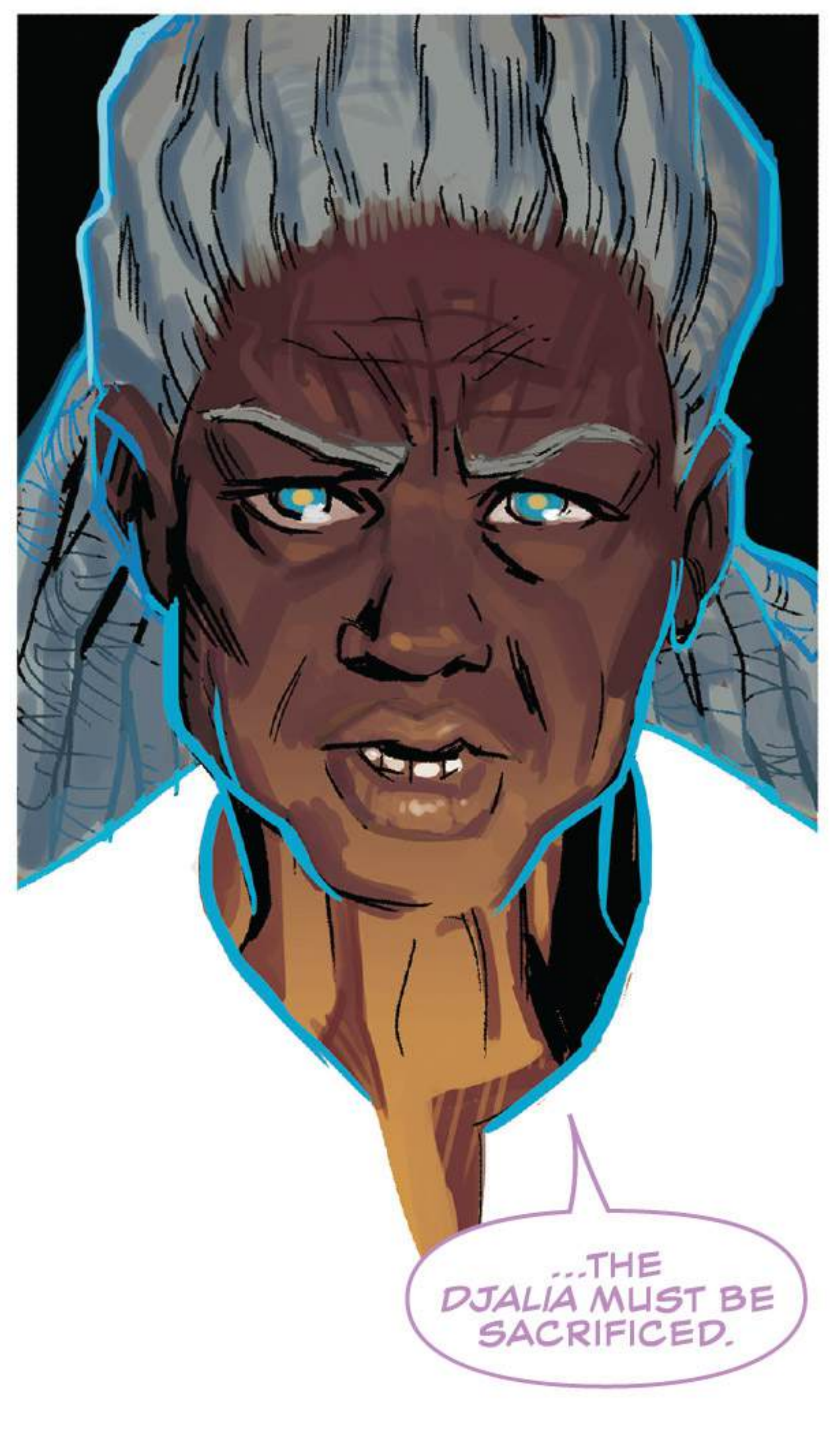
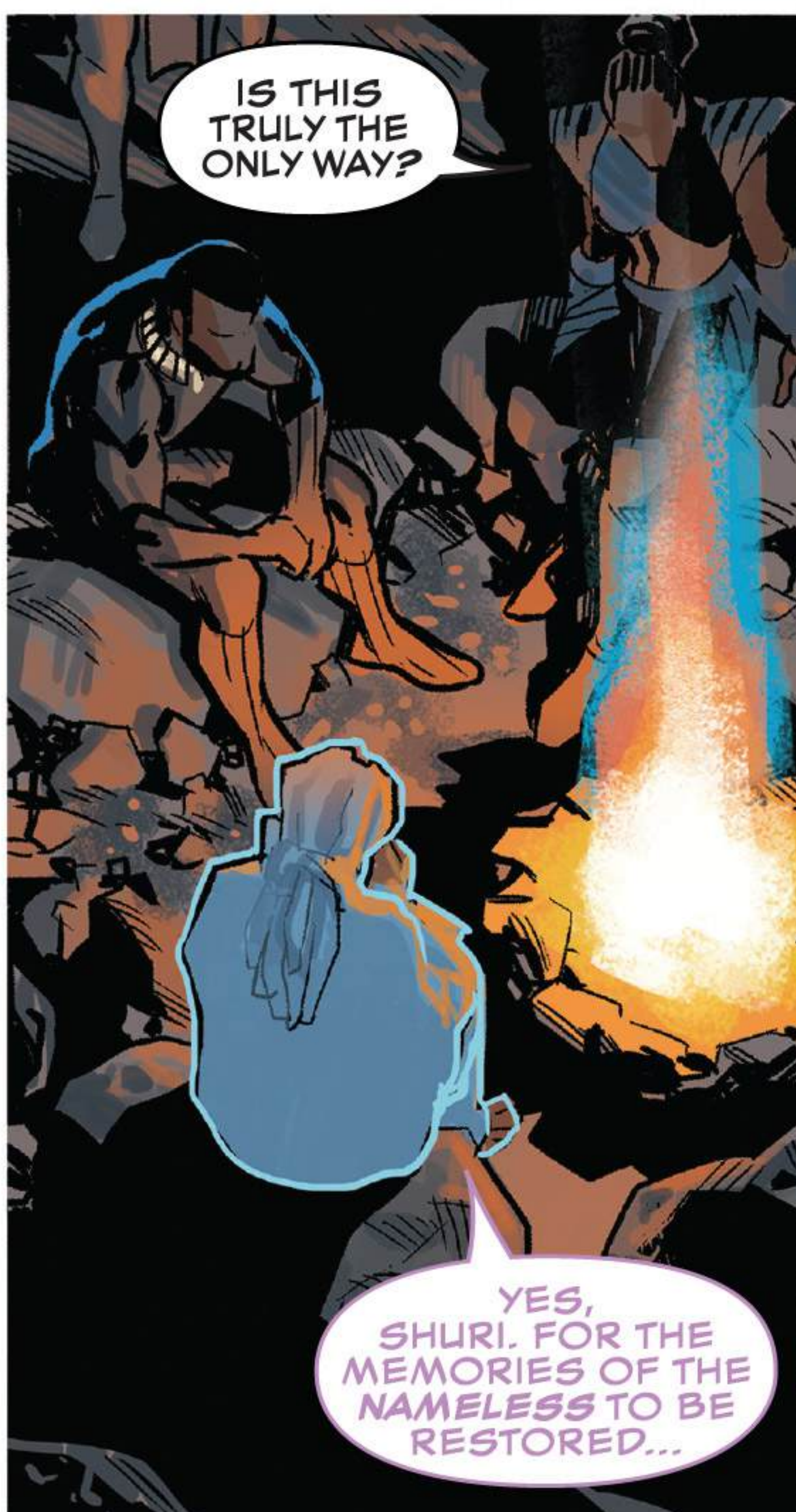
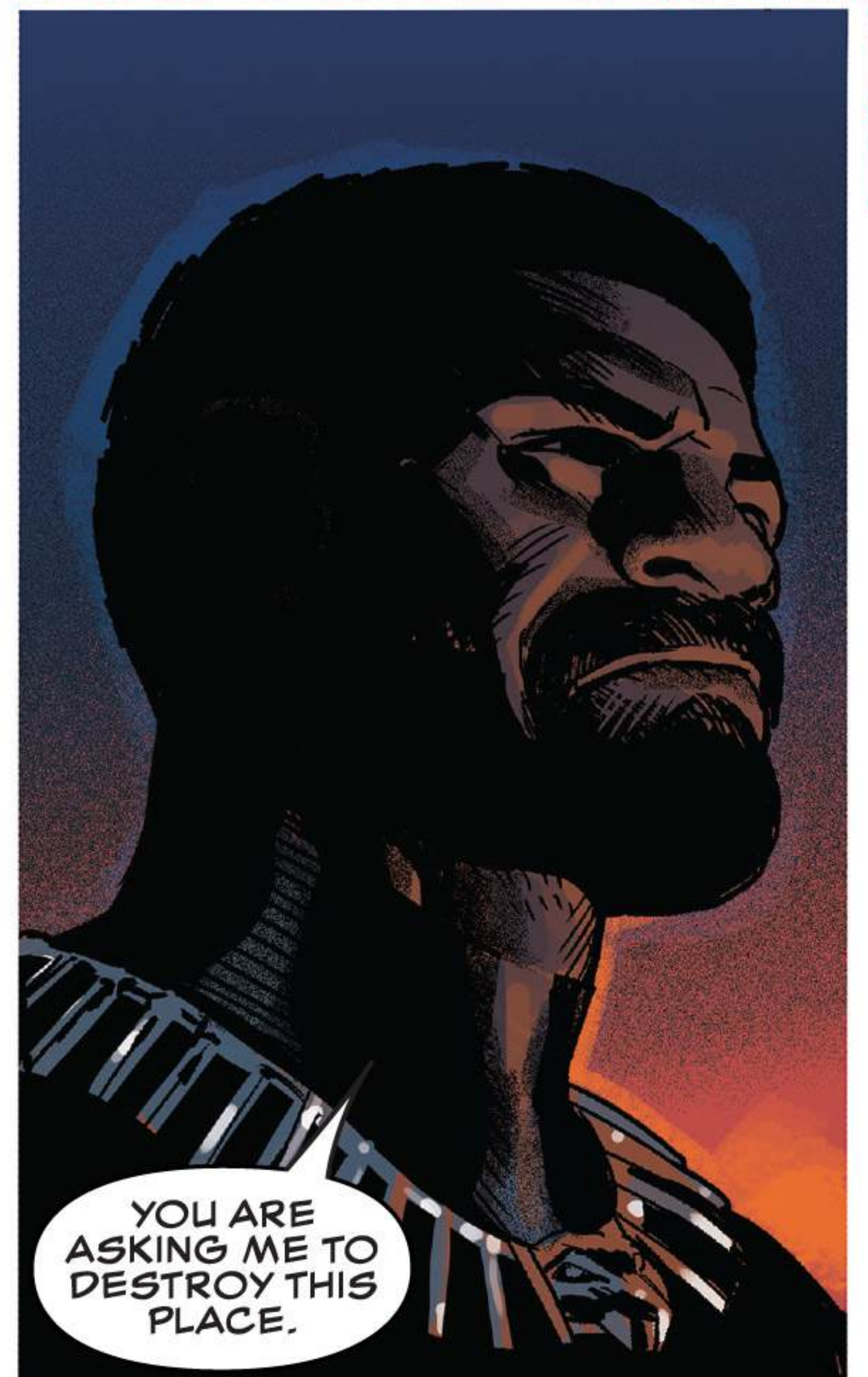
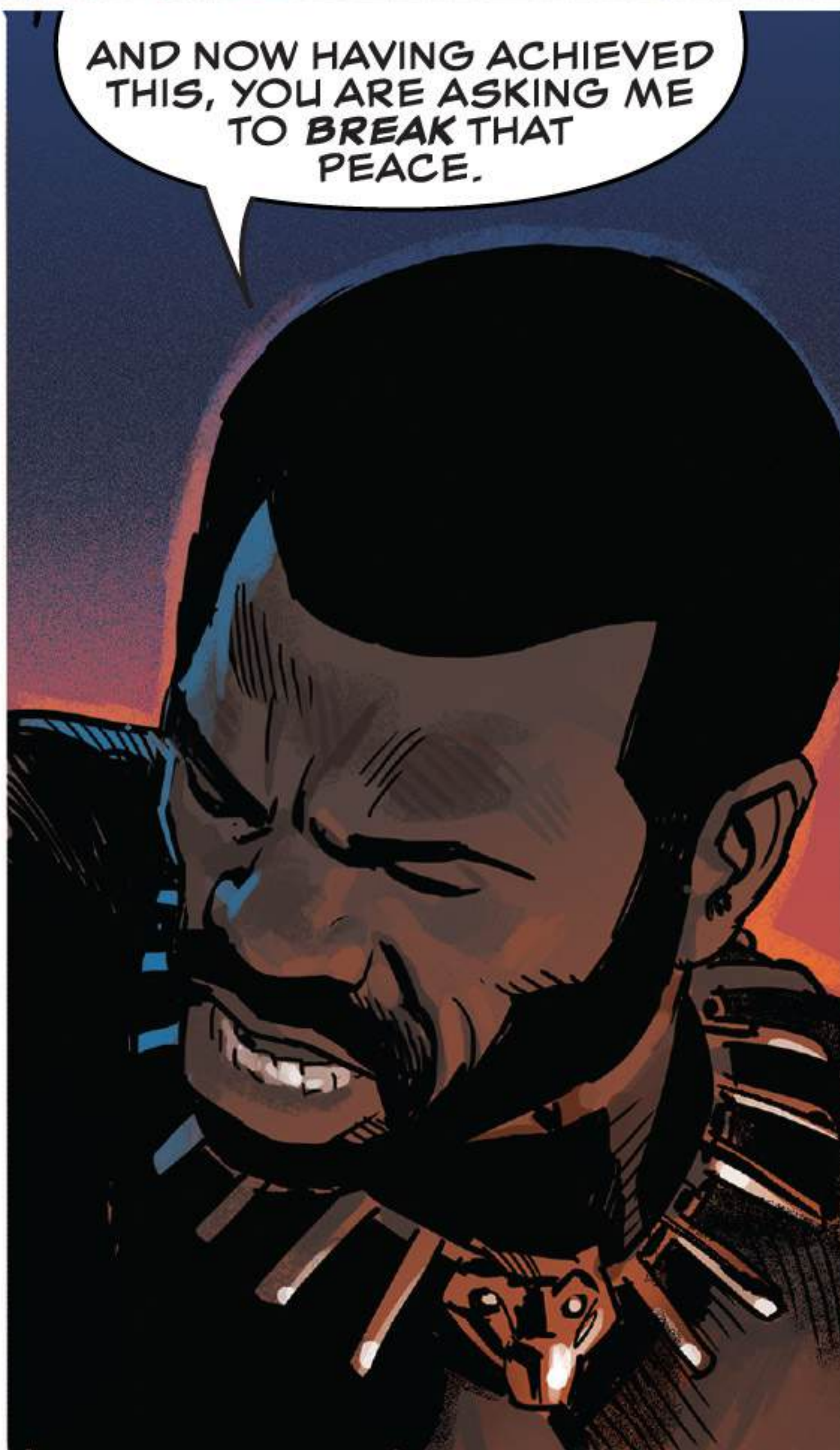
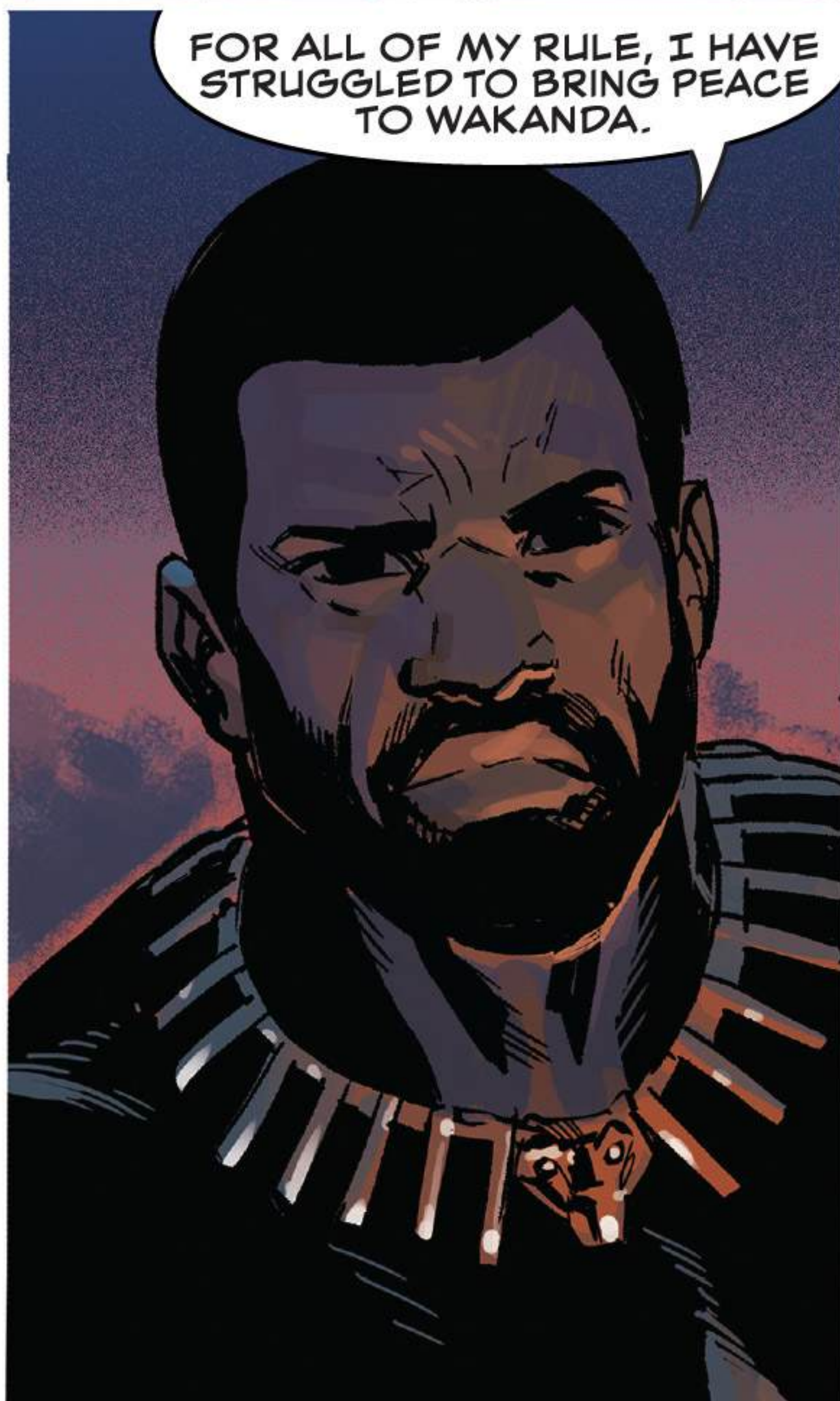
THE POWER FLUCT...ZZZZ...
SABOTAGE...ZZZZ...
OUTNUMBERED...

ZZZZZ...
UNDER ATTACK!



EDEN! NAKIA! RESPOND!







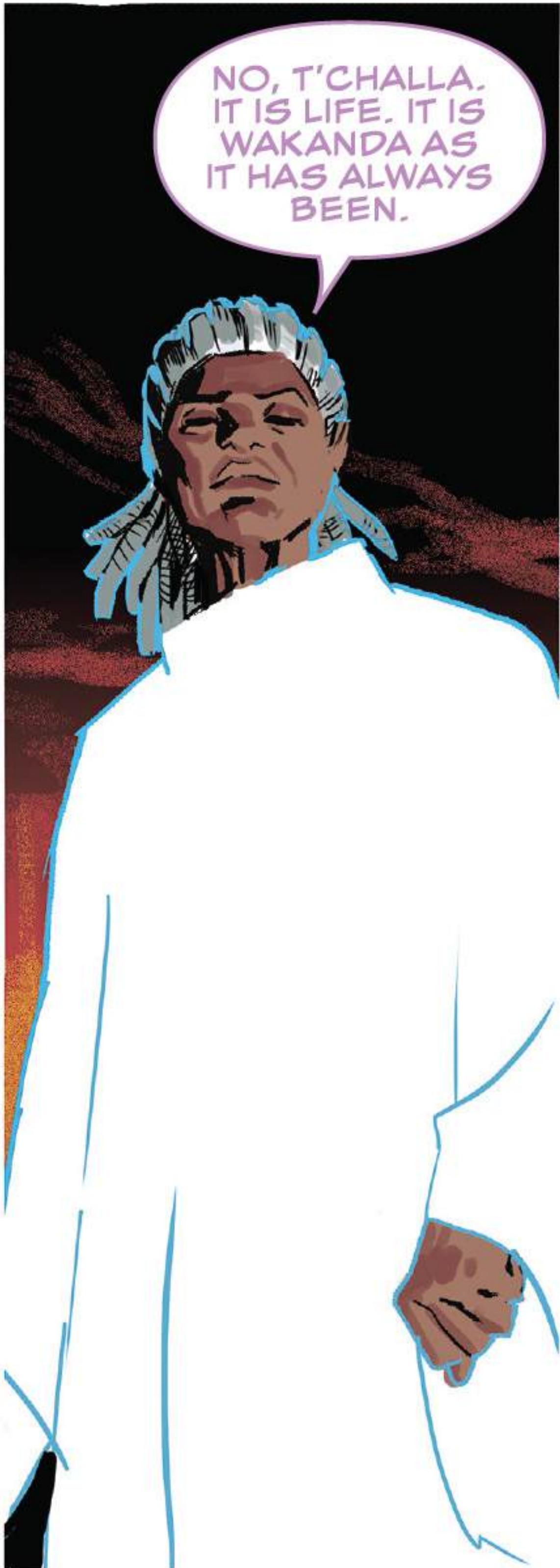
I UNDERSTAND
YOUR PAIN, MY
SON, I DO.

YOU GRIEVE
FOR YOUR PEOPLE,
FOR ALL OF THEIR
SUFFERING.

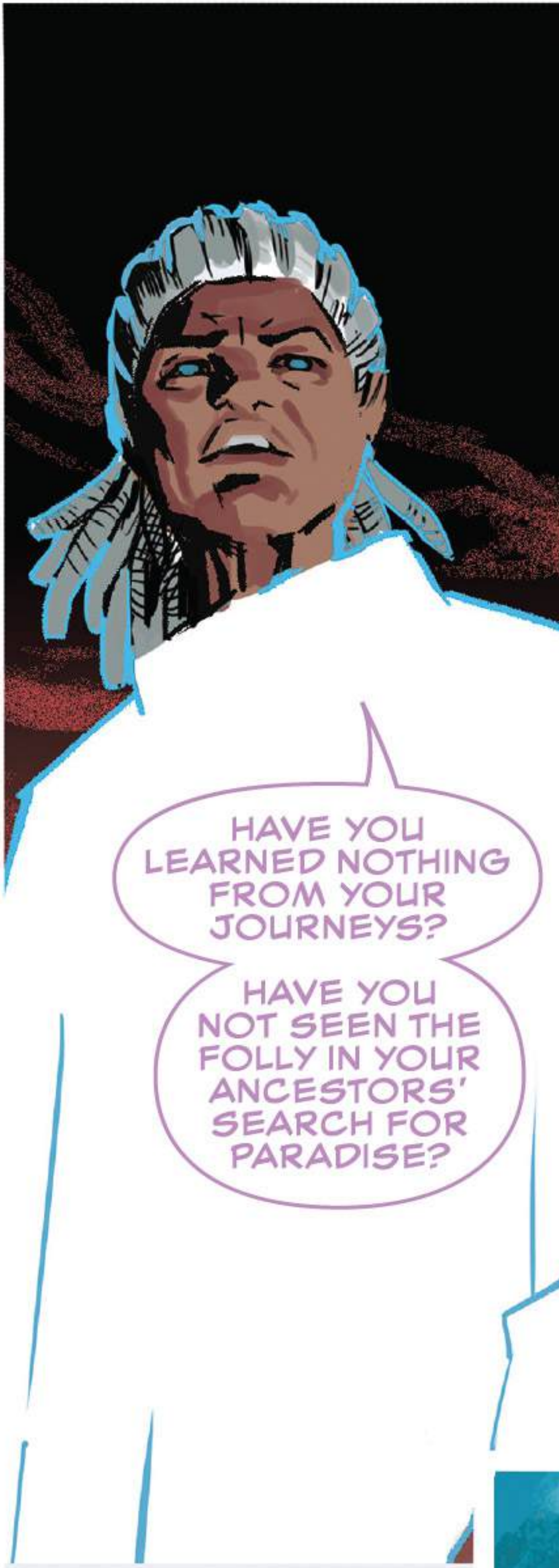


THE
DESTURI. DOOM.
MORLUN.

THE PLAGUES
PUT UPON THEM,
MOTHER. IT IS
TOO MUCH.



NO, T'CHALLA.
IT IS LIFE. IT IS
WAKANDA AS
IT HAS ALWAYS
BEEN.



HAVE YOU
LEARNED NOTHING
FROM YOUR
JOURNEYS?

HAVE YOU
NOT SEEN THE
FOLLY IN YOUR
ANCESTORS'
SEARCH FOR
PARADISE?



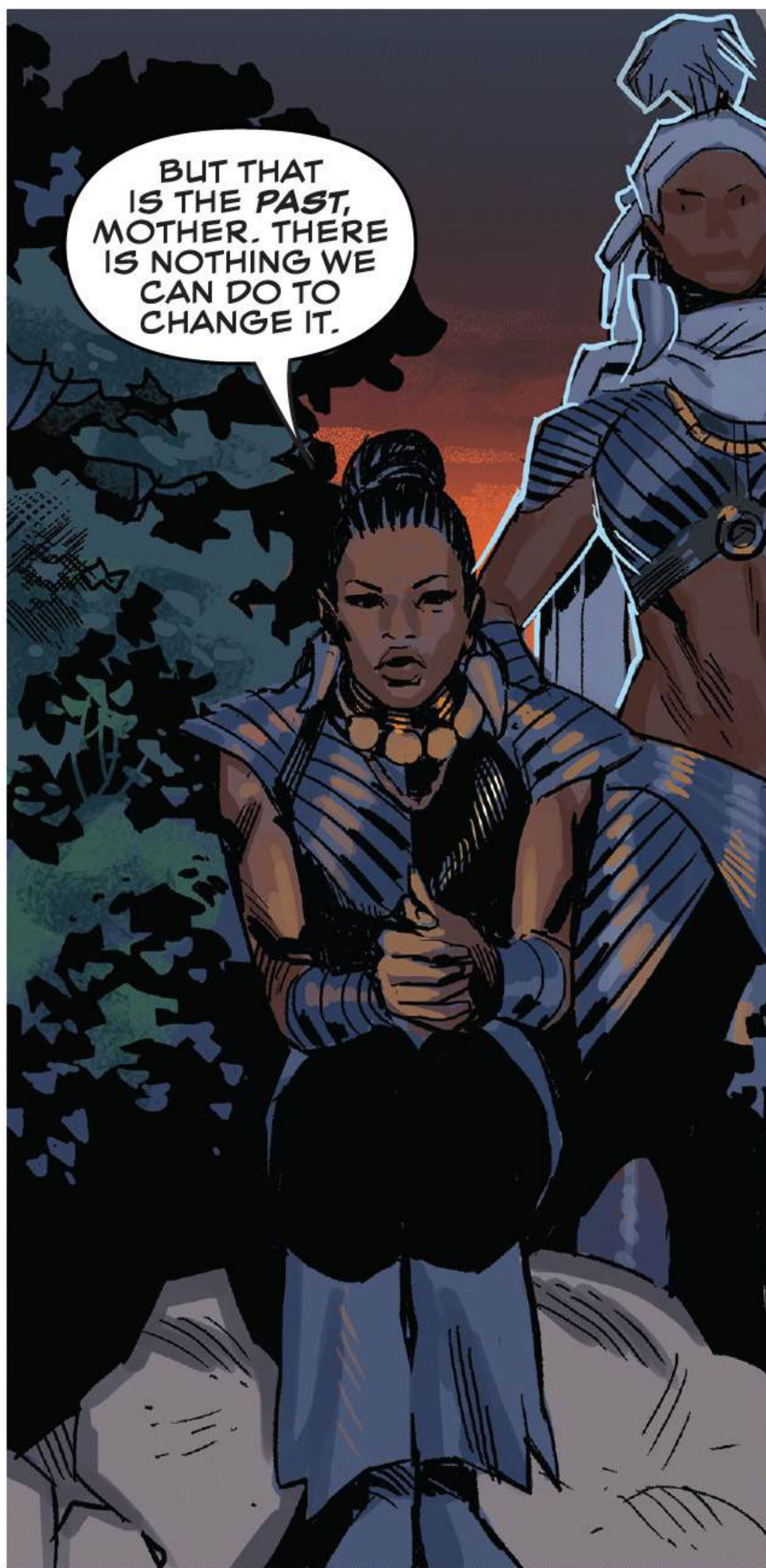
THE
ORIGINATORS...

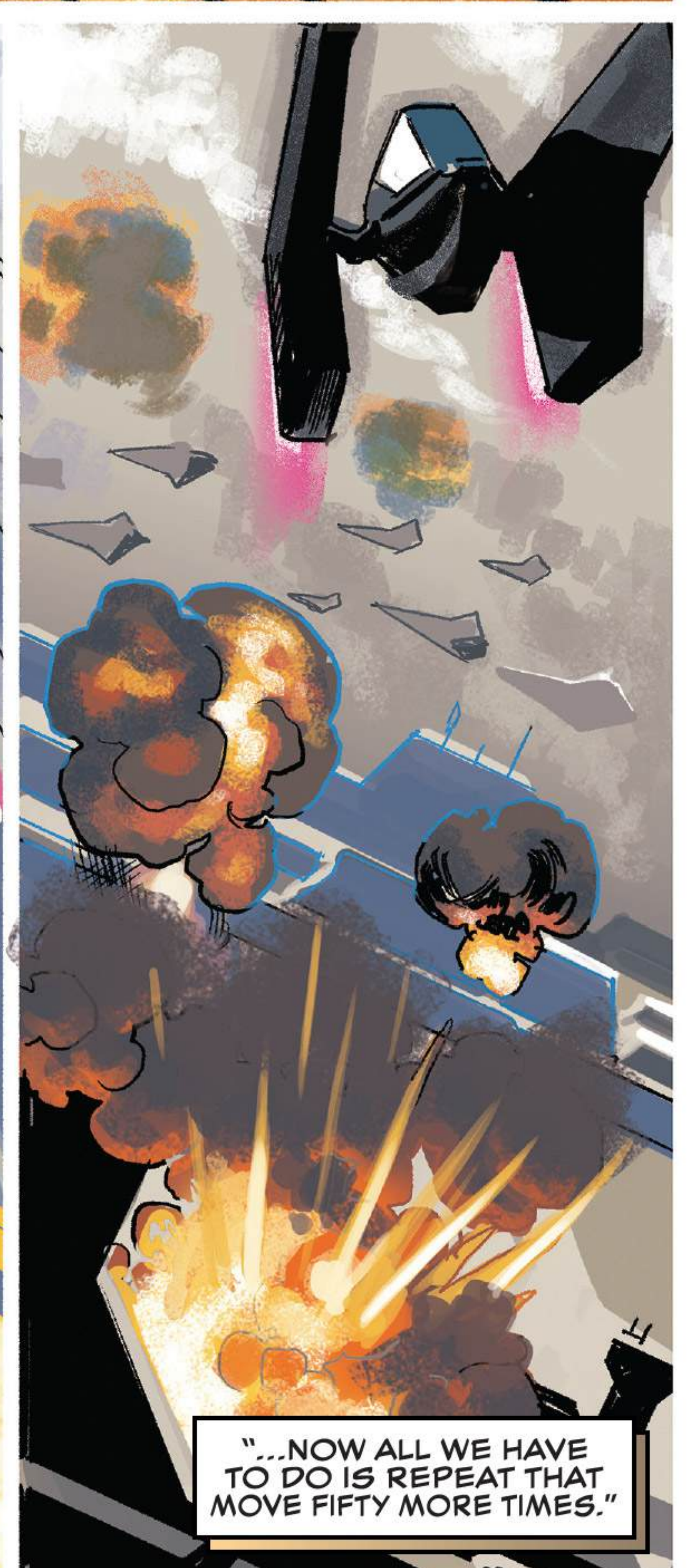


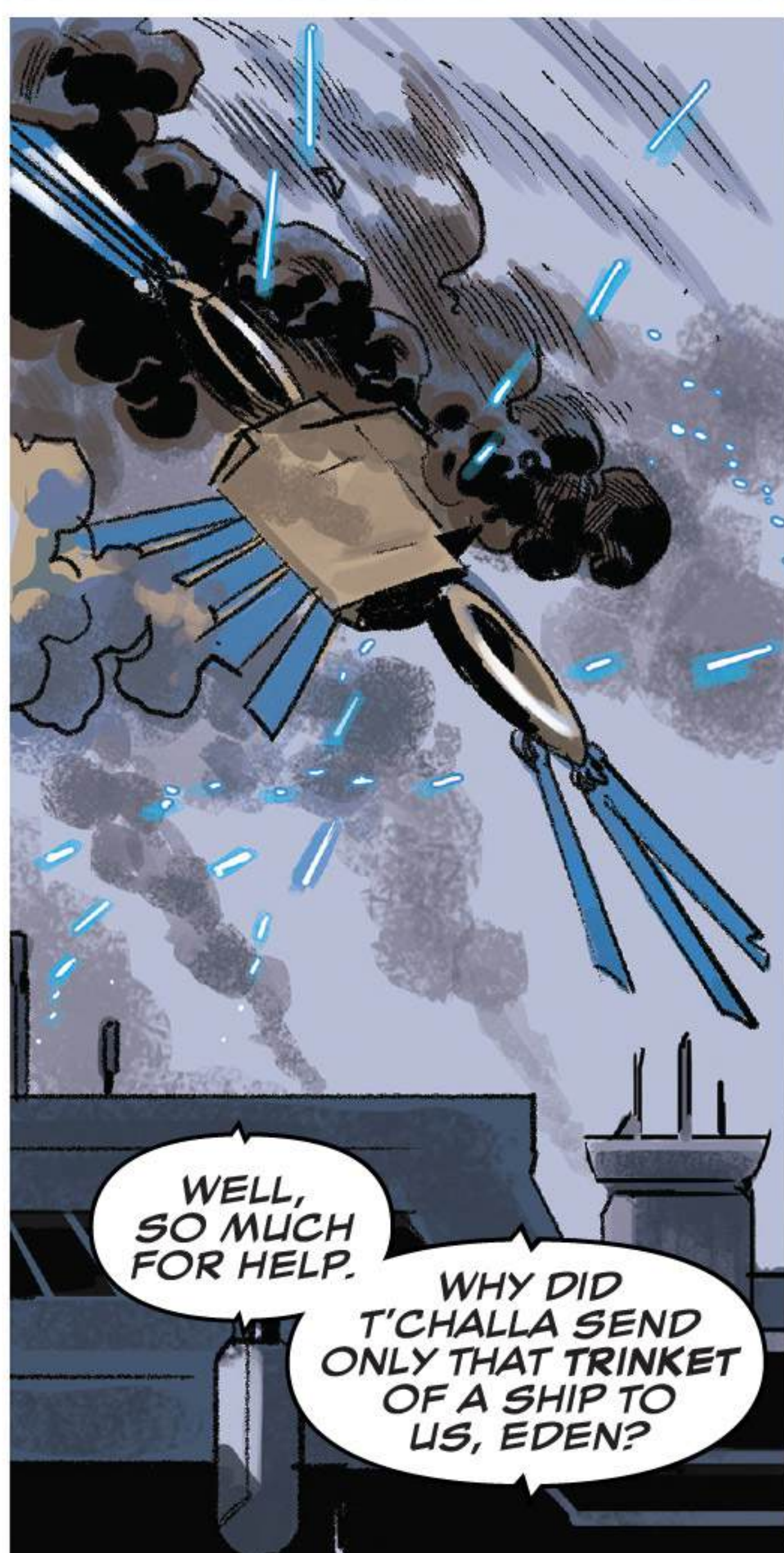
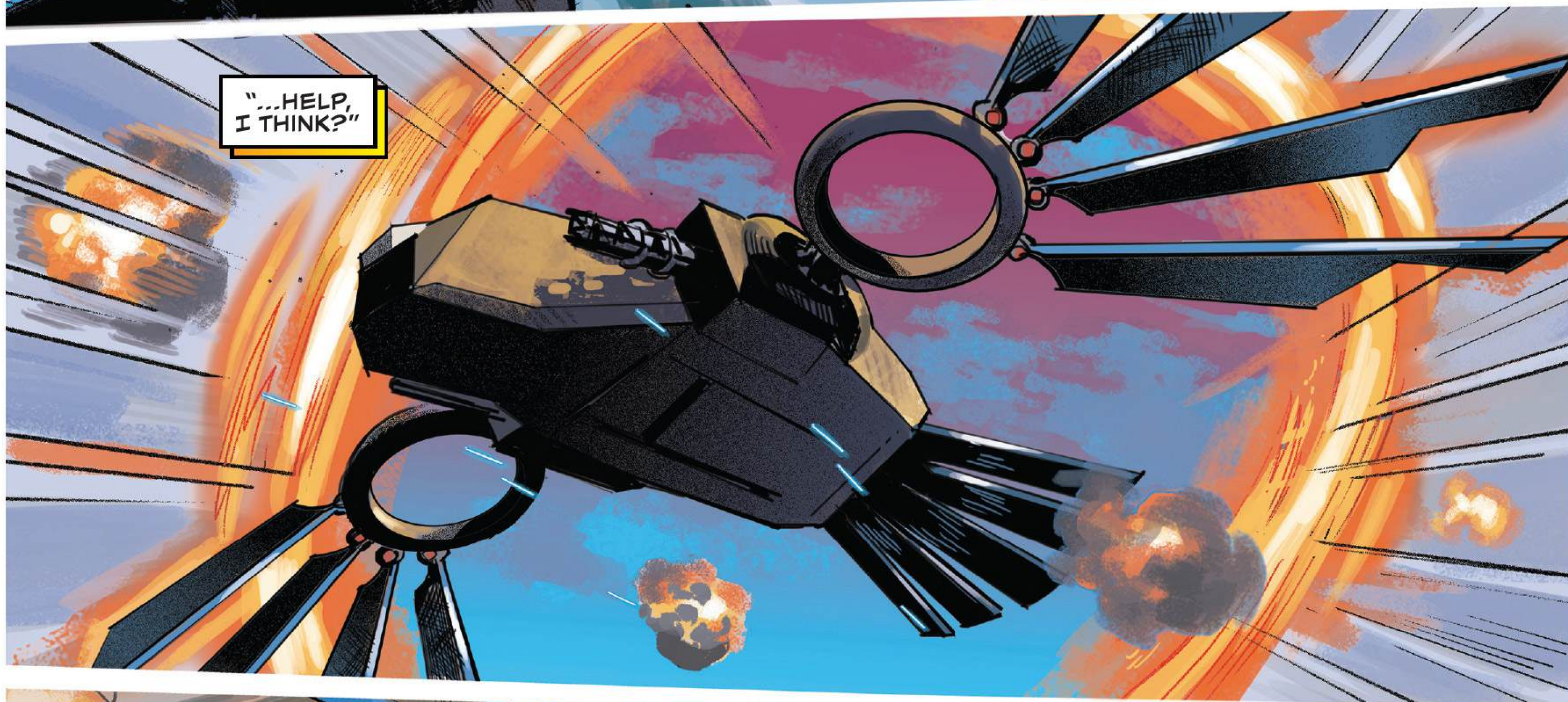
"DECIMATED. DRIVEN
FROM THEIR LAND
BY OUR ANCESTORS
AND CAGED BY
THE ORISHA--"



--SO
THAT WAKANDA
MIGHT LIVE AND
THRIVE?



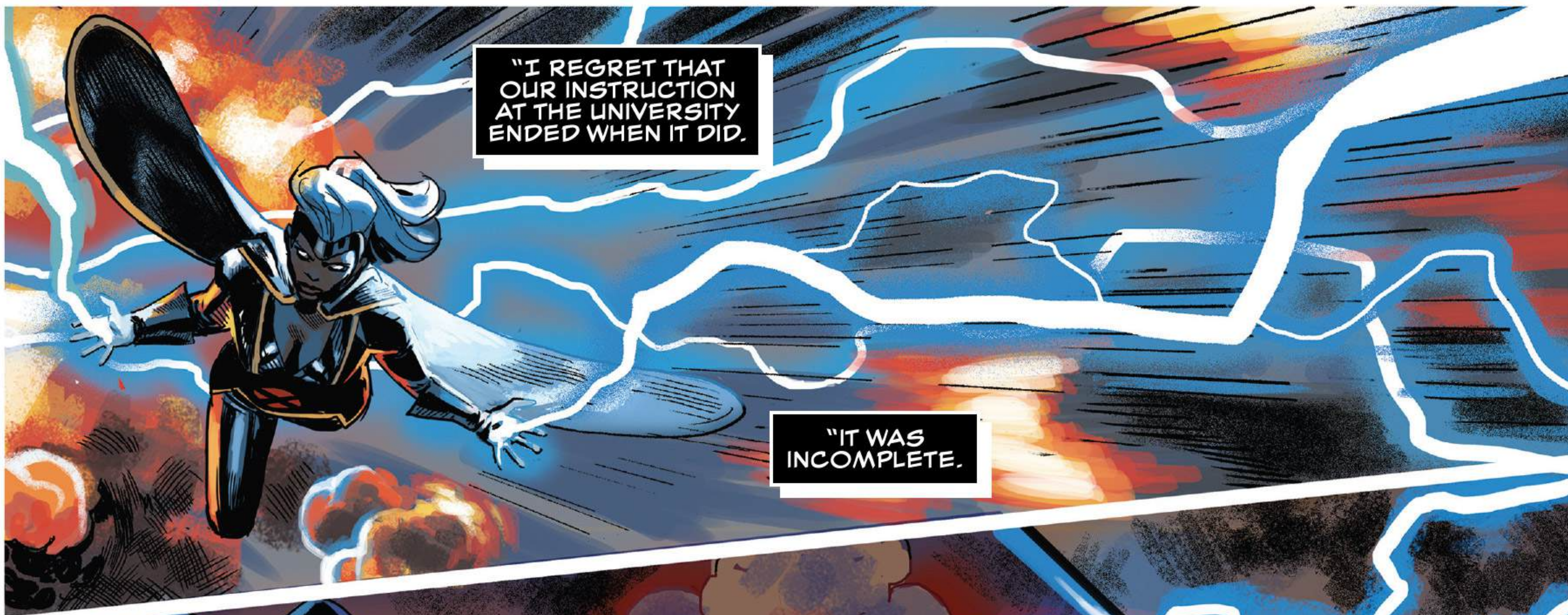




"TURBULENCE."





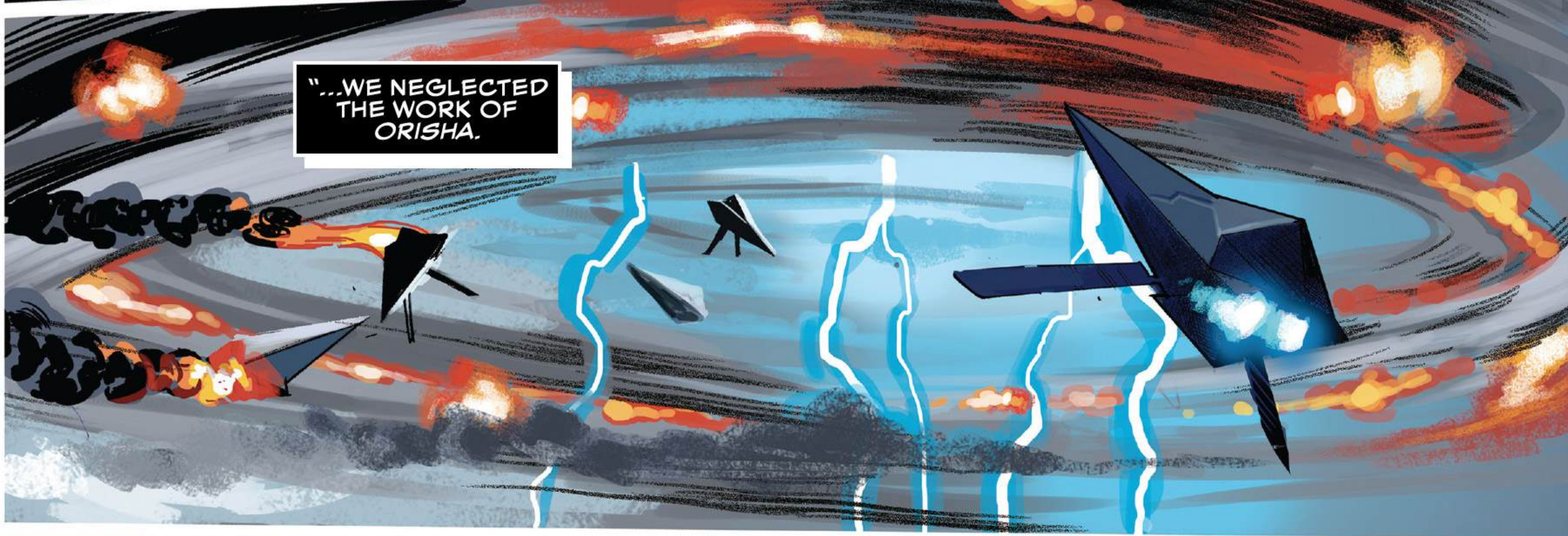


"I REGRET THAT
OUR INSTRUCTION
AT THE UNIVERSITY
ENDED WHEN IT DID."

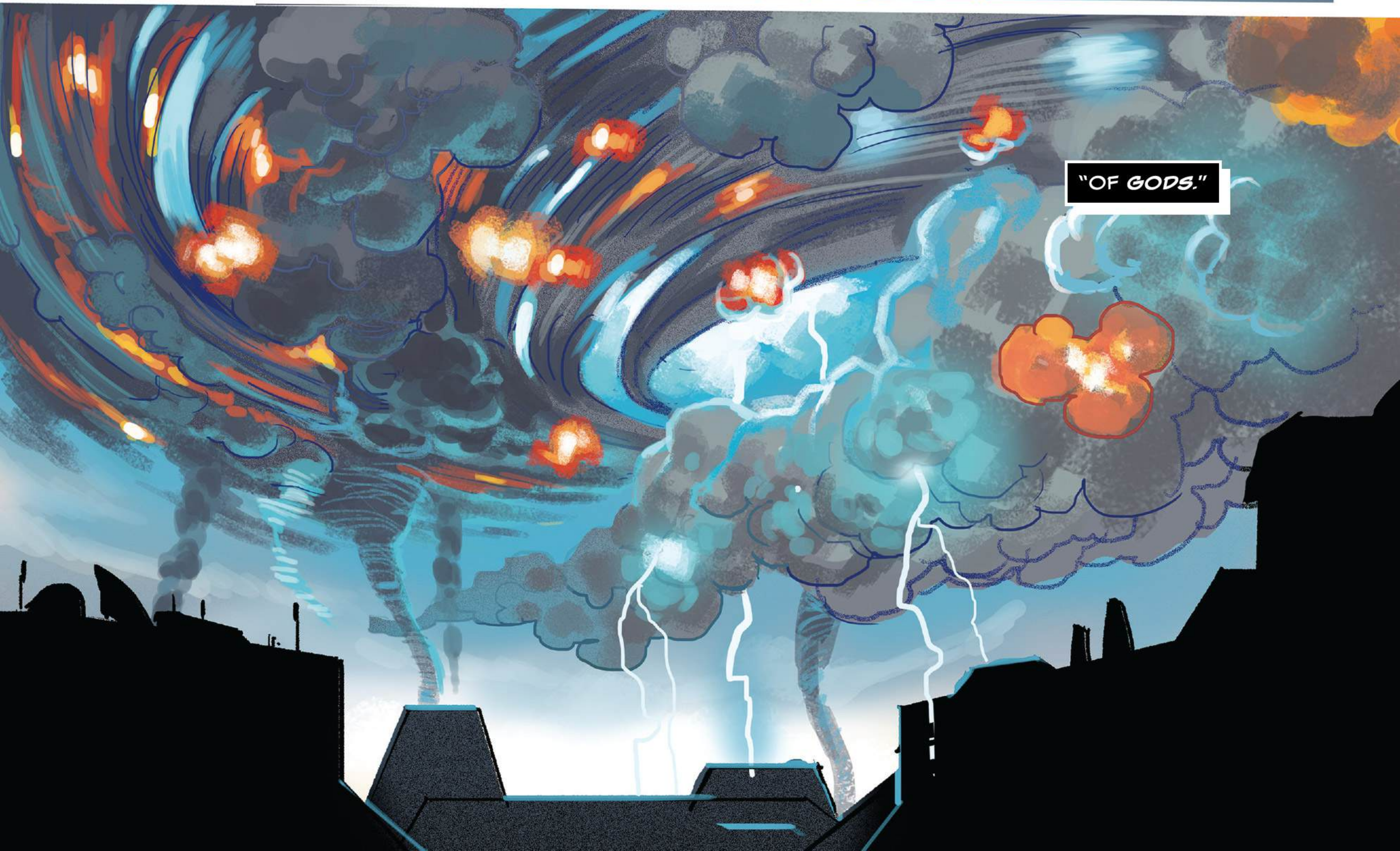
"IT WAS
INCOMPLETE."



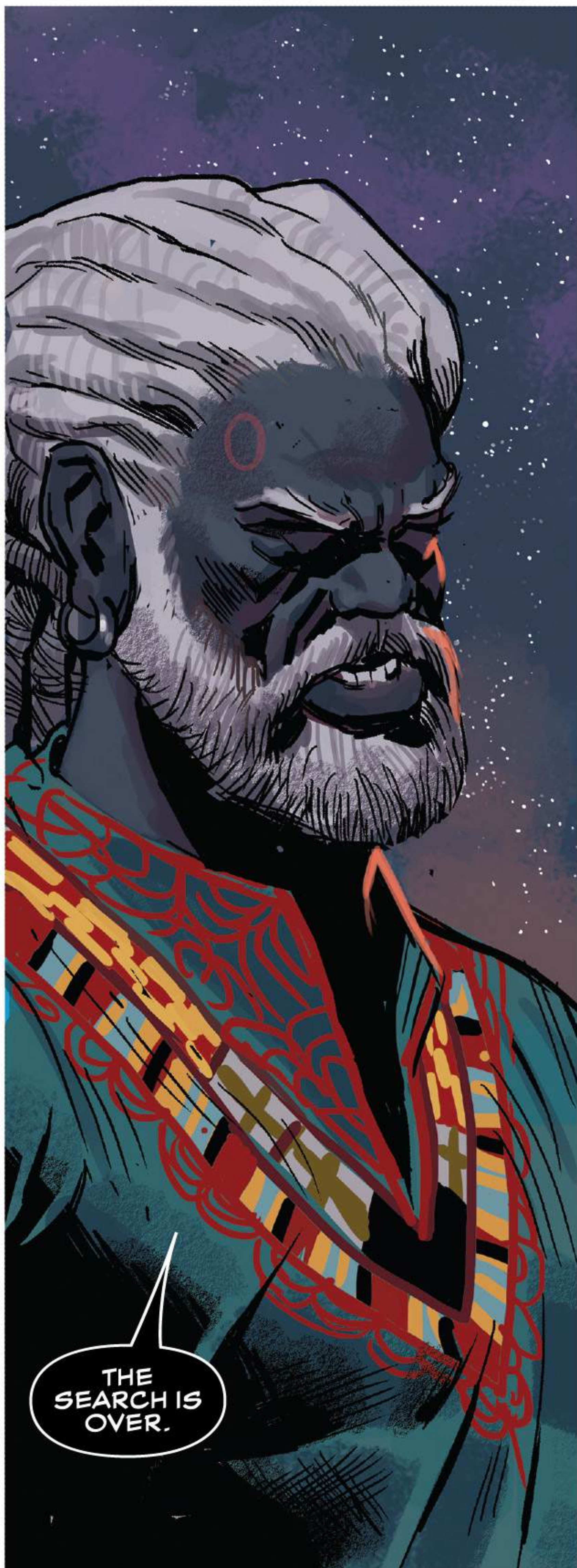
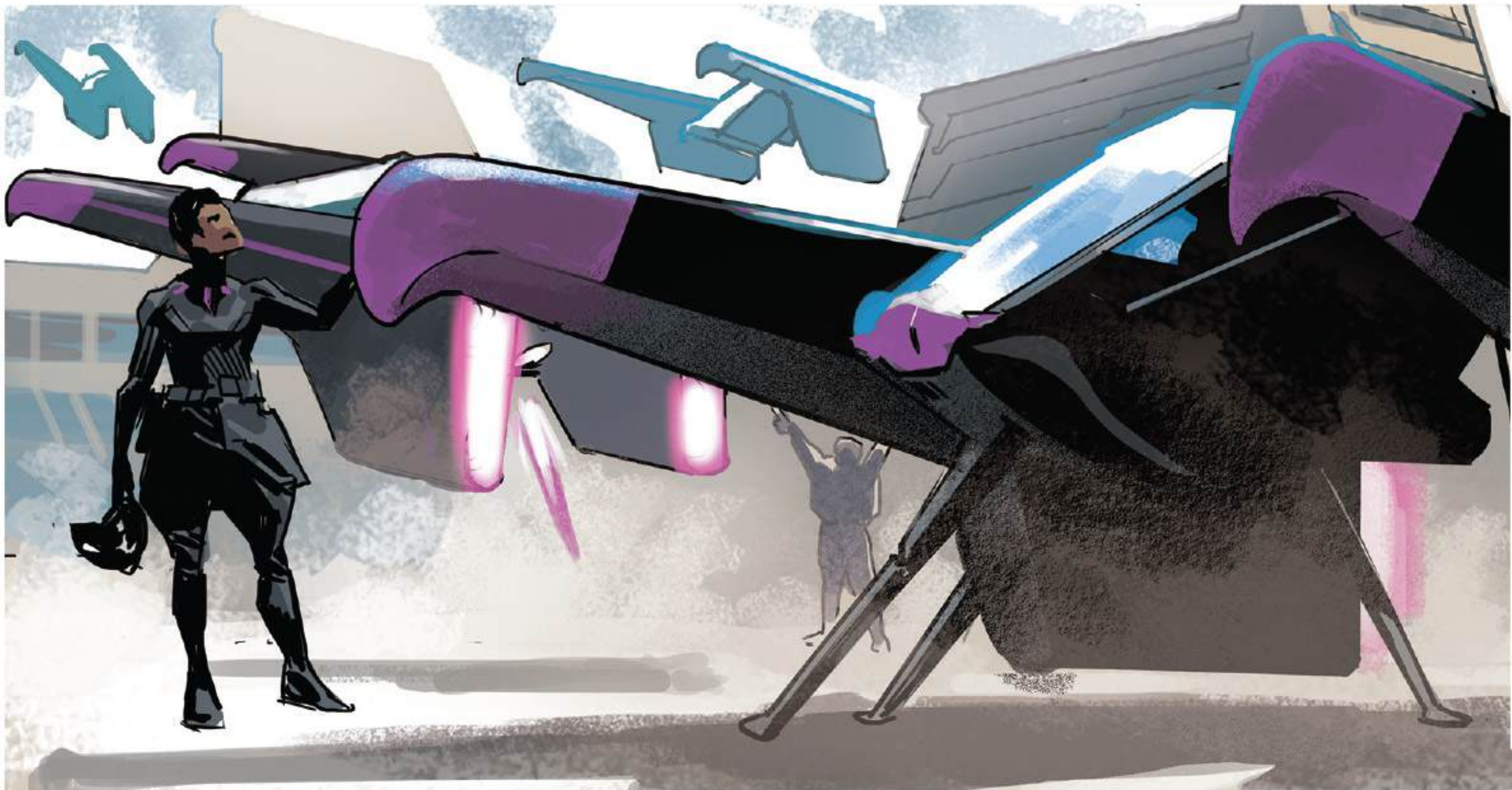
"FOR WHILE WE
SPOKE OFTEN OF
THE WORK OF MEN..."



"...WE NEGLECTED
THE WORK OF
ORISHA."

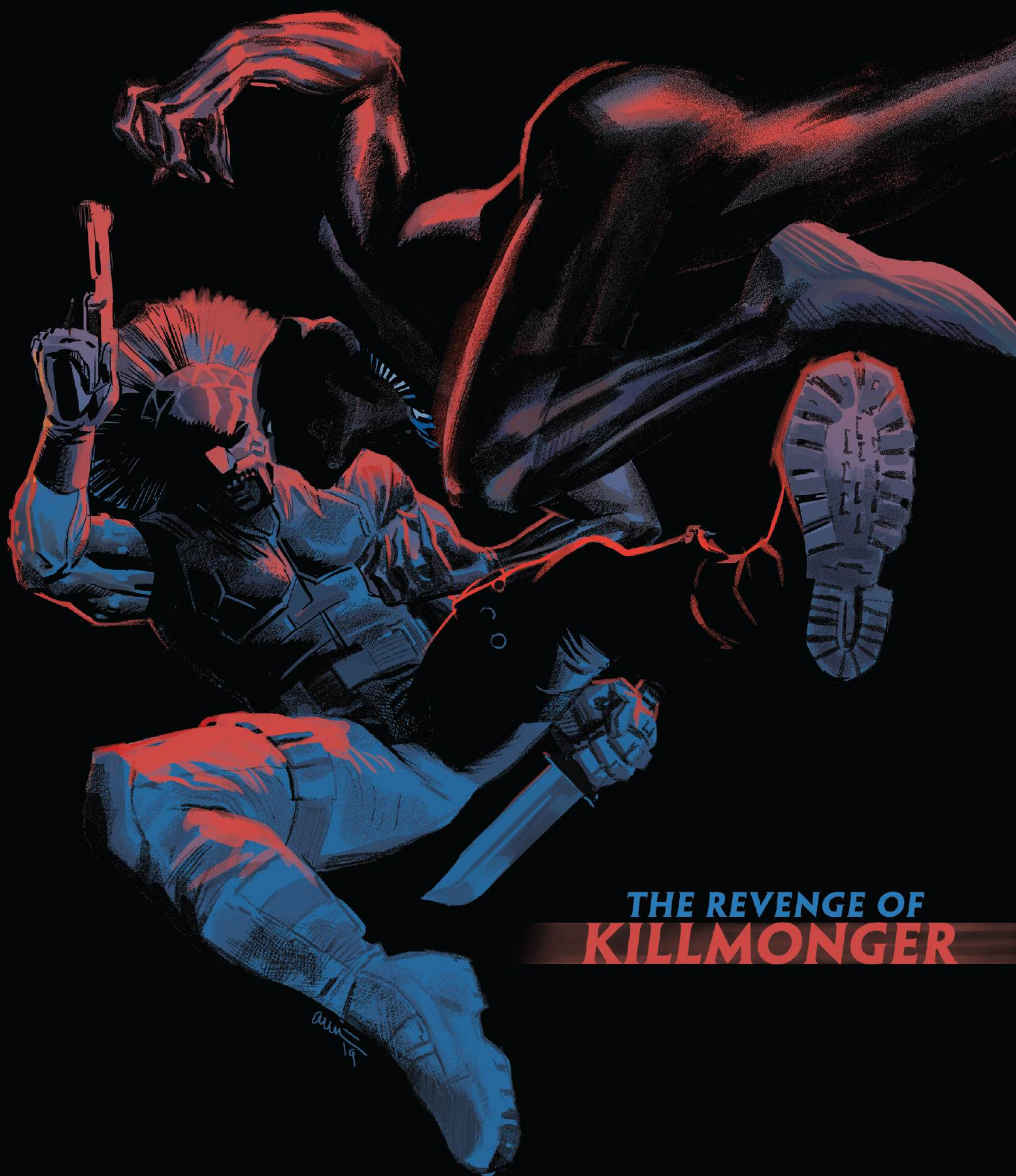


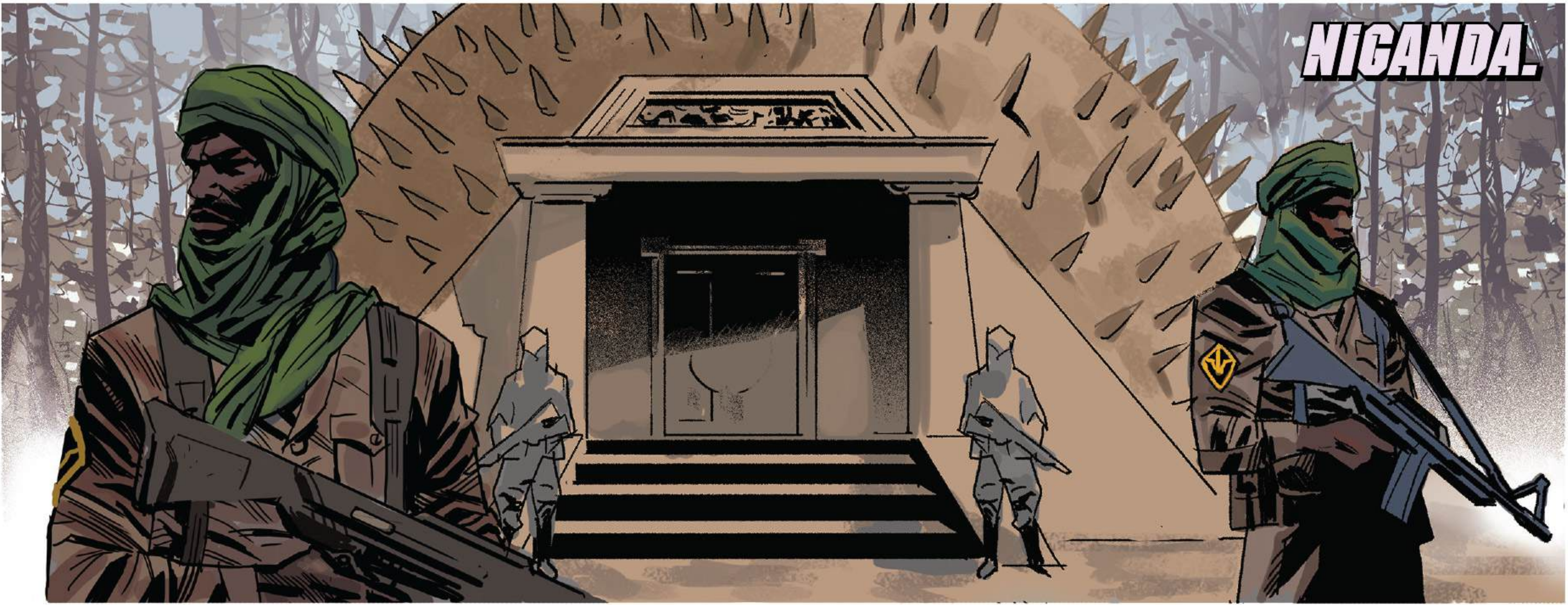
"OF GODS."

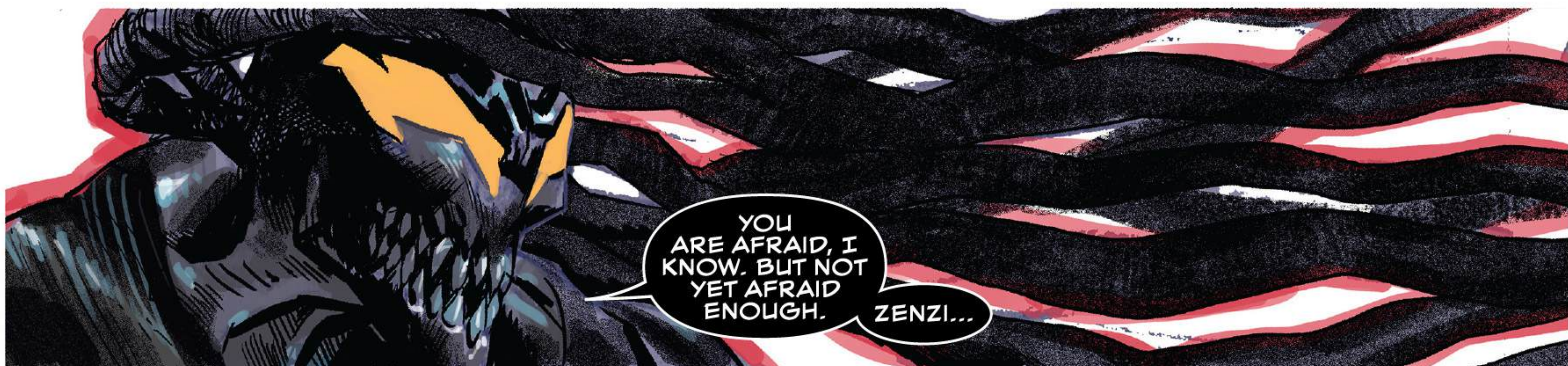


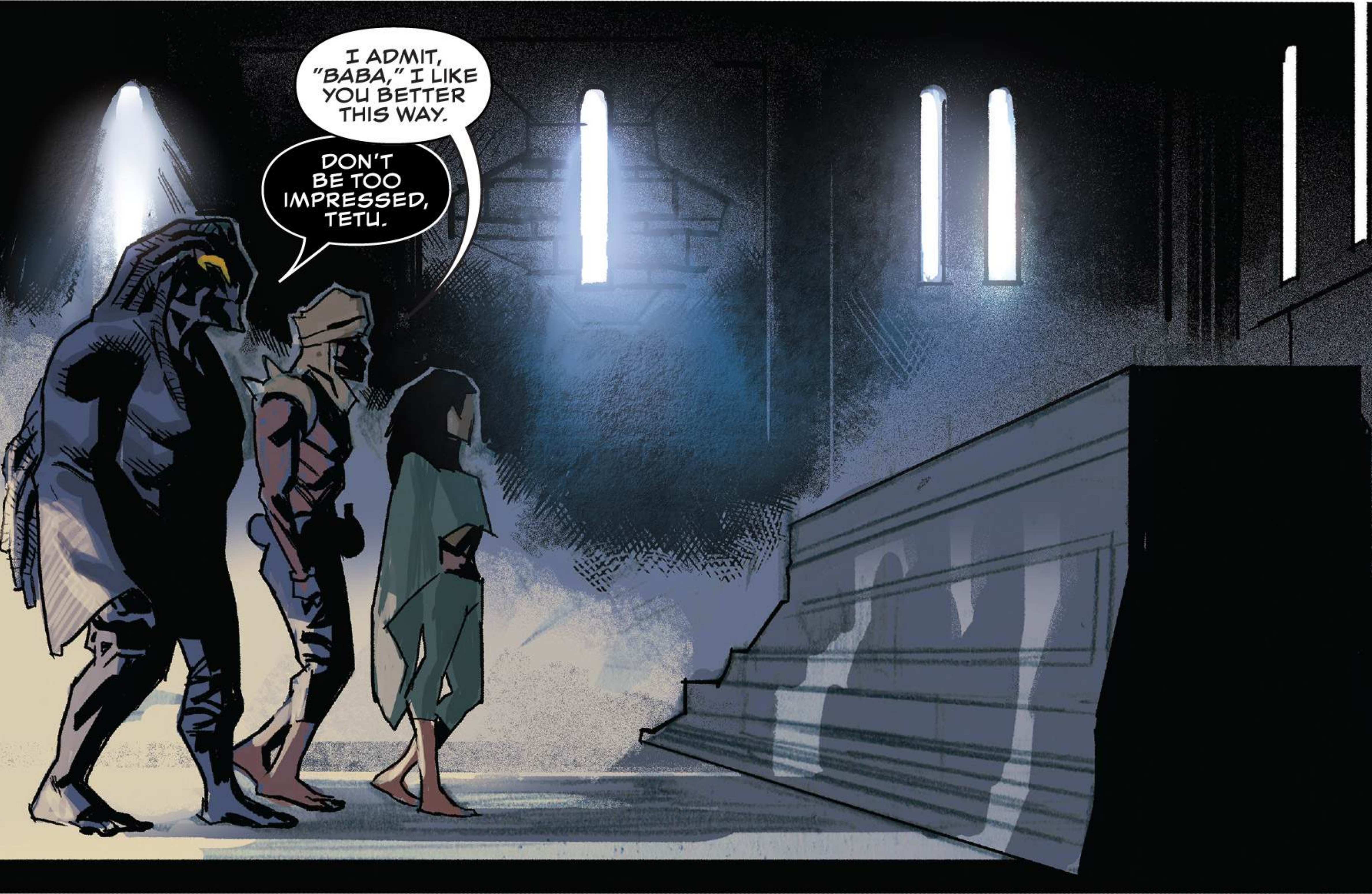
WE ARE THE
ONES WE HAVE
BEEN LOOKING
FOR.



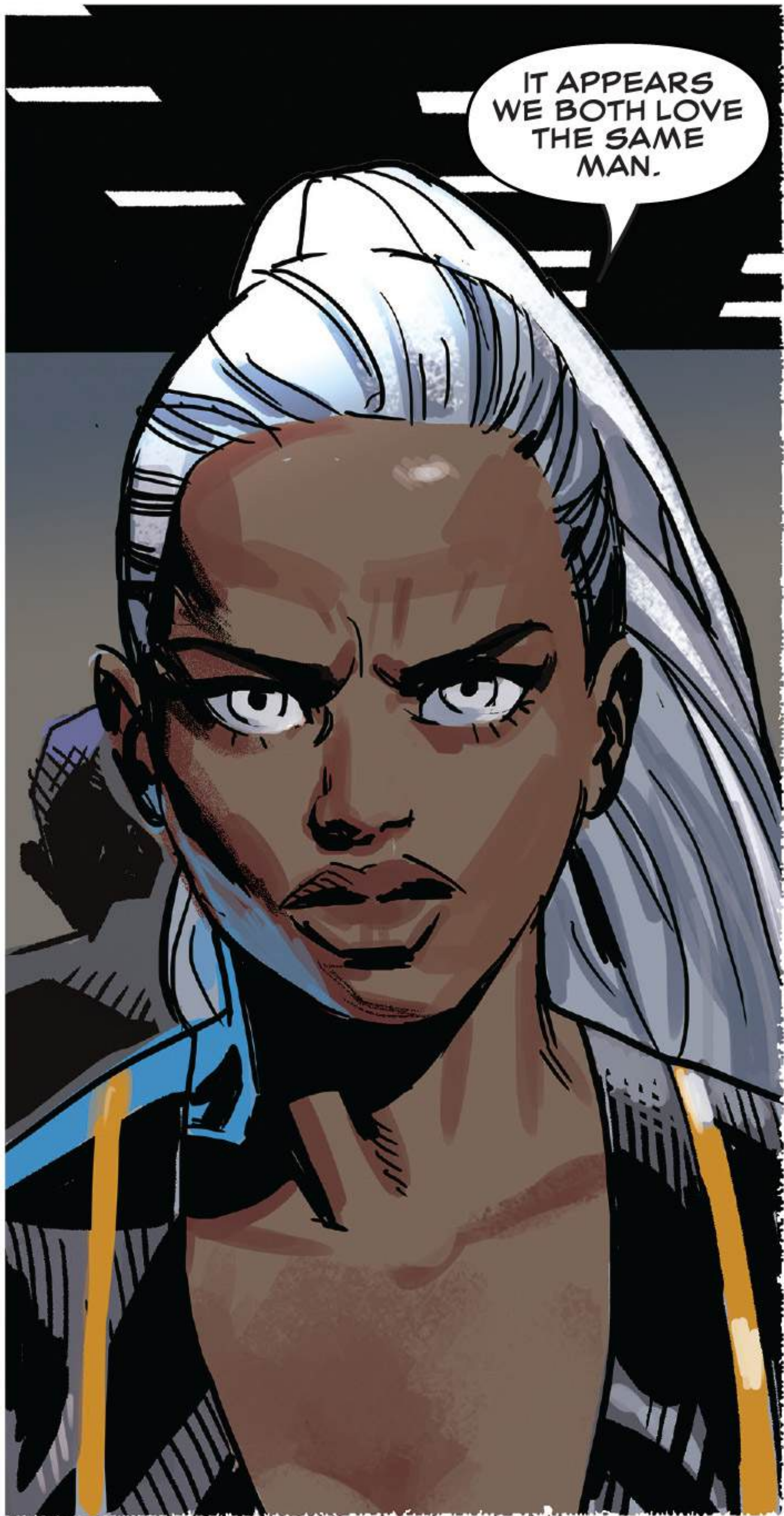














LISTEN, I AM NO TELEPATH. HOWEVER YOU OR T'CHALLA FEEL IS IRRELEVANT TO ME, BECAUSE IT IS UNKNOWABLE TO ME.



AND BESIDES, THINGS BETWEEN T'CHALLA AND ME HAVE ALWAYS BEEN... **COMPLICATED.**

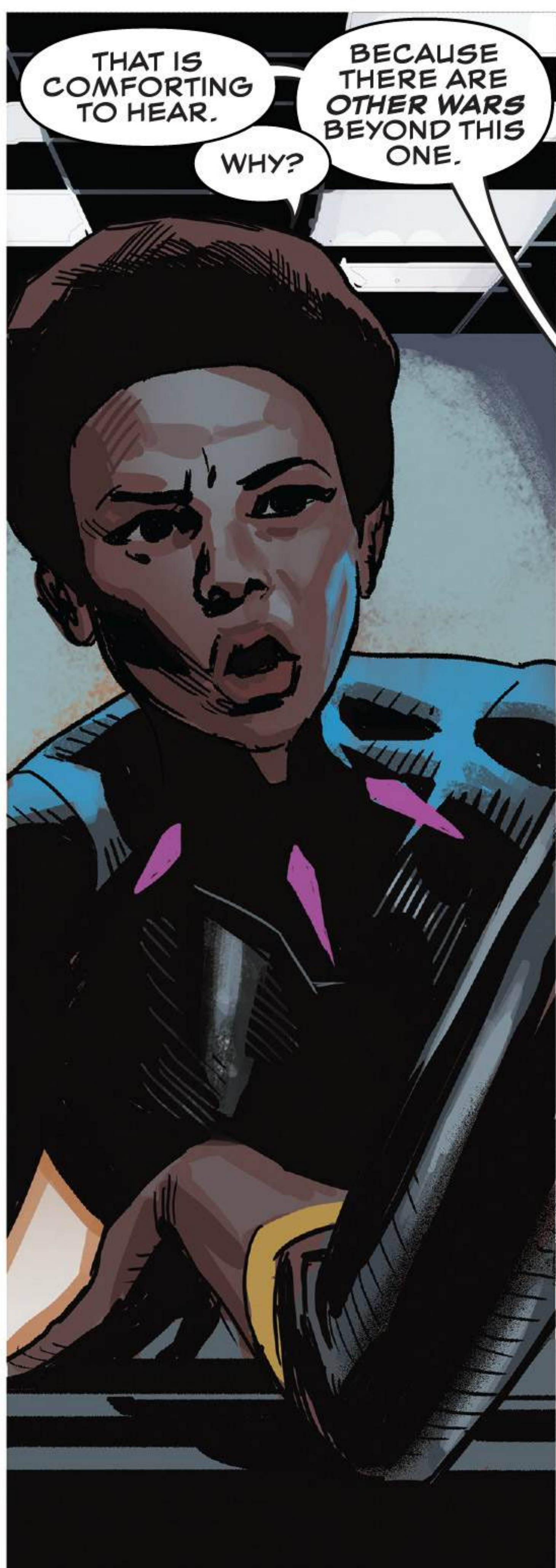
OF COURSE, T'CHALLA WOULD NOT WANT YOU TO HEAR OF SUCH COMPLICATIONS.



HE IS A MAN, AFTER ALL. AND MEN THINK THAT THEY HAVE SOMEHOW MONOPOLIZED THE ART OF INDISCRETION.

IT WASN'T AN **INDISCRETION.**

WE WERE AT WAR. WE WOULD NOT HAVE RISKED IT ALL FOR A **PETTY FLING.**



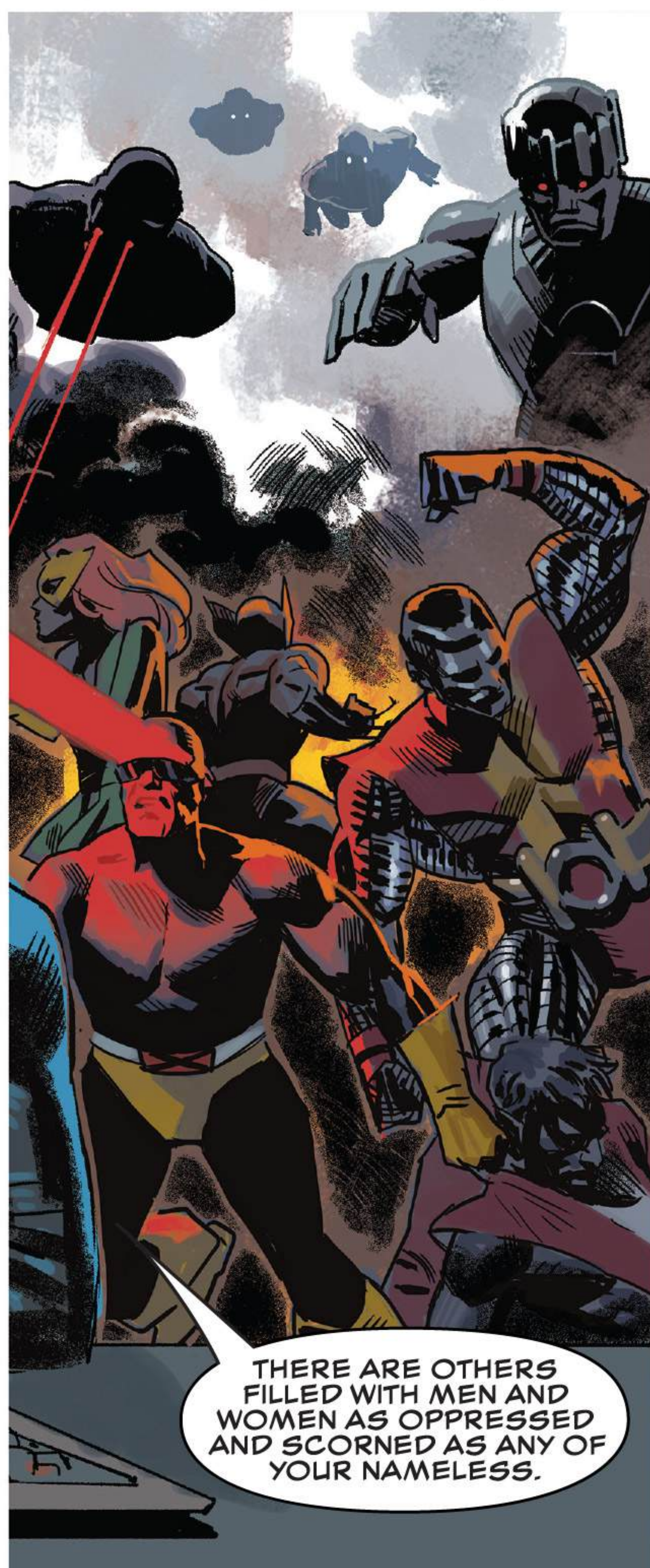
THAT IS COMFORTING TO HEAR.

WHY?

BECAUSE THERE ARE **OTHER WARS** BEYOND THIS ONE.



AND WHILE I CONSIDER WAKANDA MY NATION, IT IS NOT MY **ONLY** NATION.



THERE ARE OTHERS FILLED WITH MEN AND WOMEN AS OPPRESSED AND SCORNE*D* AS ANY OF YOUR **NAMELESS.**



COMMANDER,
I HAVE NOT COME
TO SHAME YOU. AND
I HAVE NOT COME
TO VENT MY
JEALOUSIES.



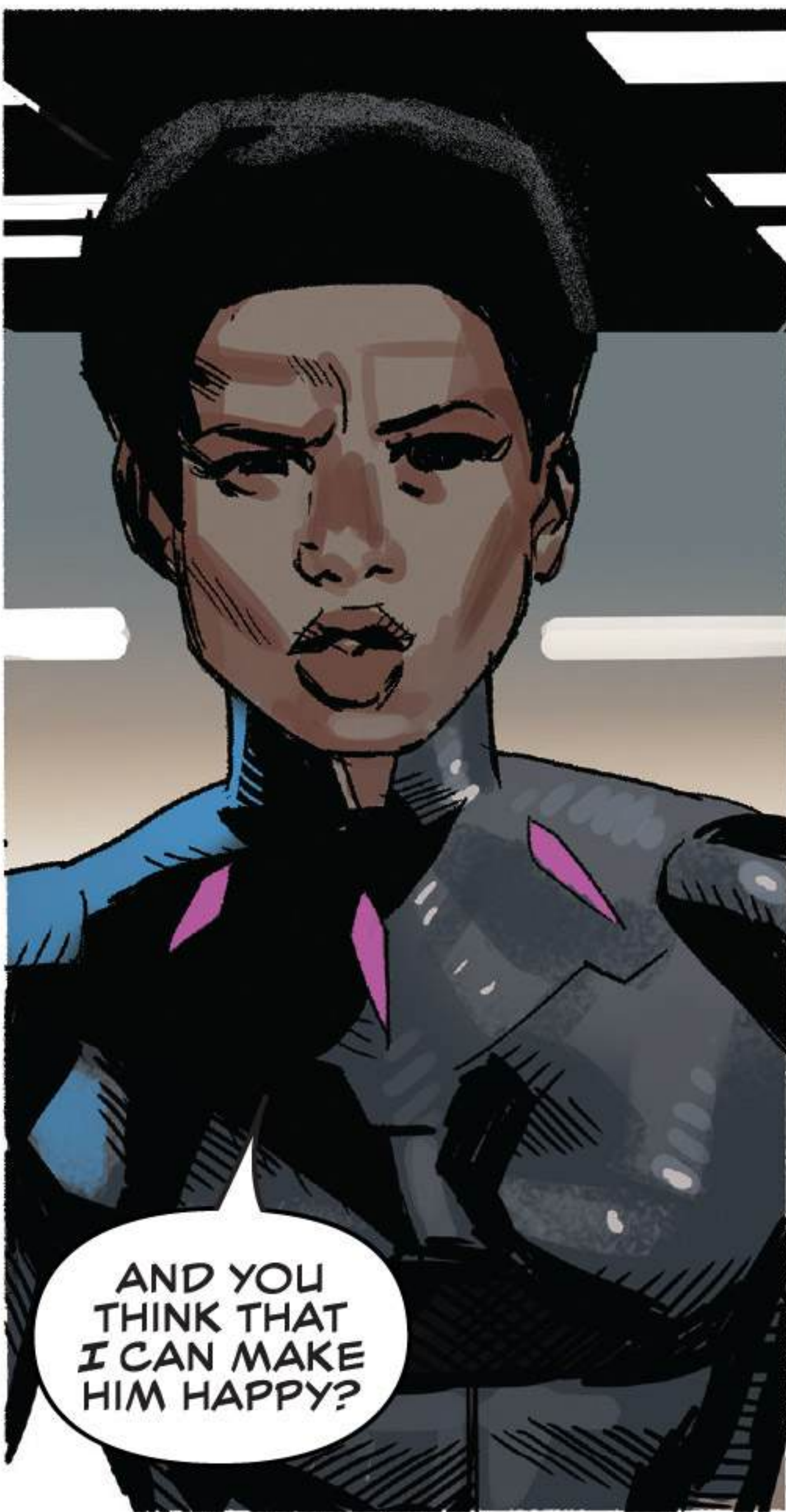
I LOVE
T'CHALLA. I
LOVE HIM MORE
THAN I HAVE EVER
LOVED ANY MAN.
DO YOU KNOW
WHAT THAT
MEANS?



IT MEANS
THAT THERE IS
ALMOST NOTHING
MORE IMPORTANT
TO ME THAN HIS
HAPPINESS AND
PEACE OF
MIND.



AND IN THE
COMING WAR,
THERE WILL BE
MOMENTS WHEN I
WILL NOT BE AROUND
TO ENSURE
EITHER.

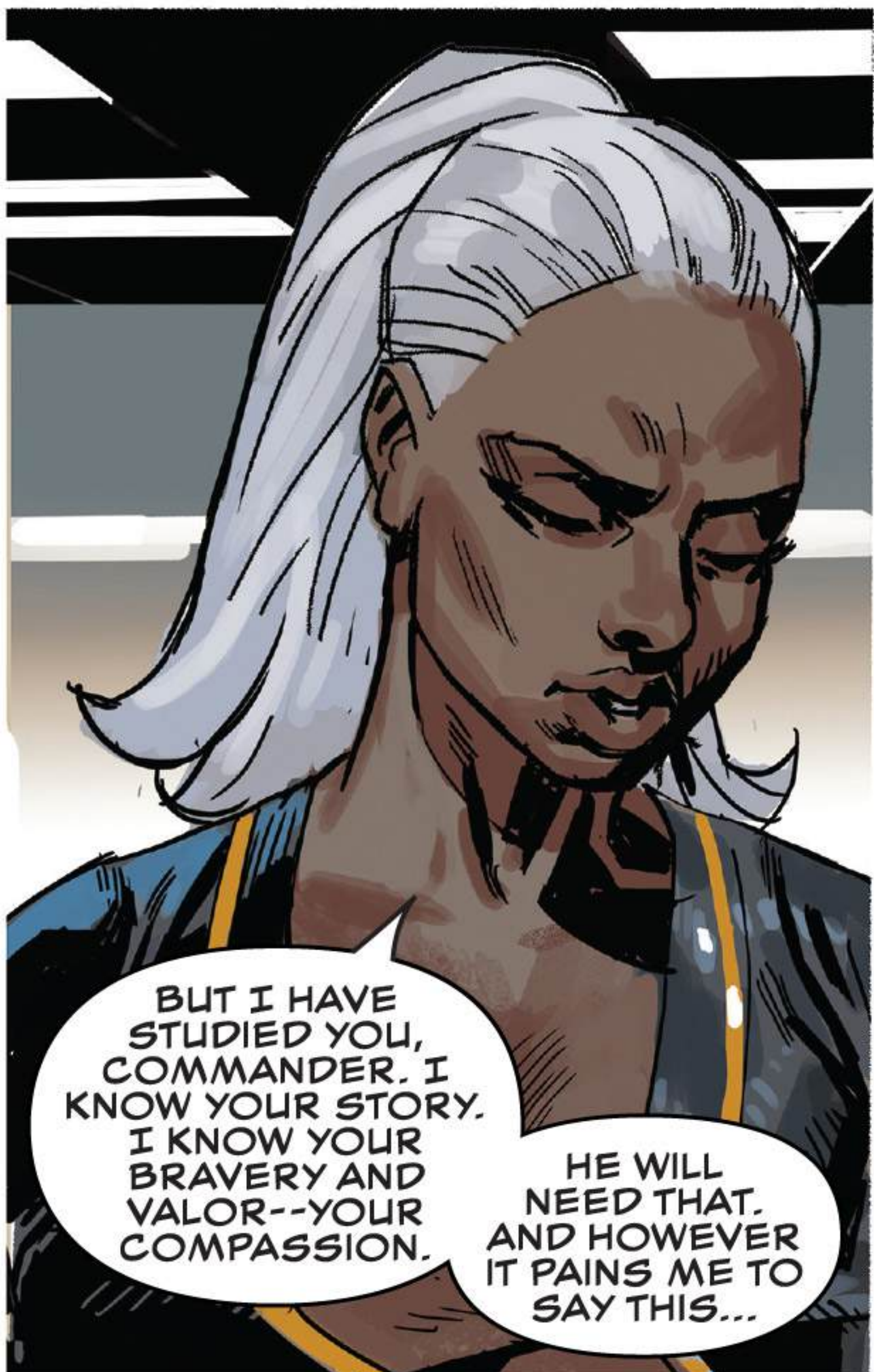


AND YOU
THINK THAT
I CAN MAKE
HIM HAPPY?



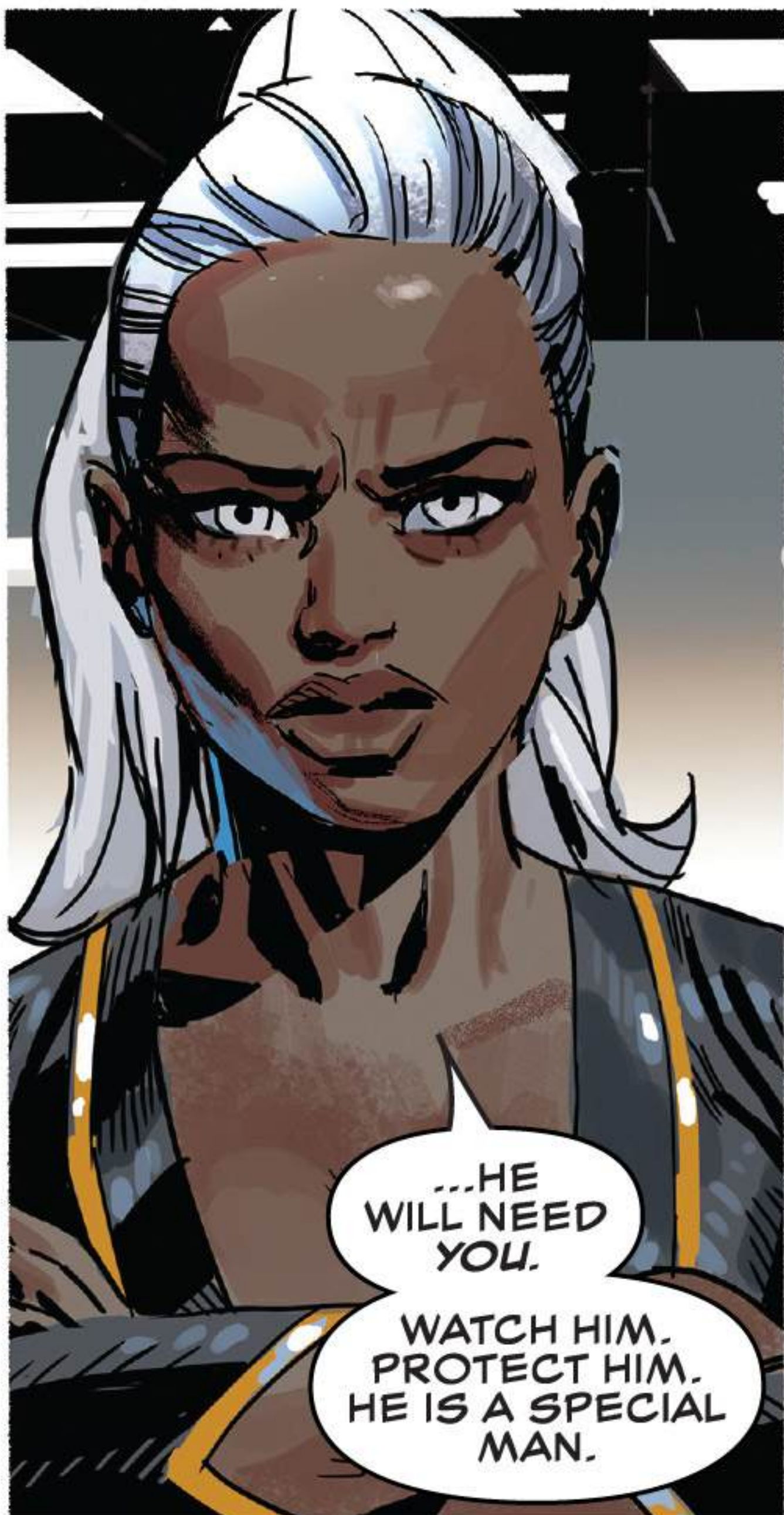
OF
COURSE
NOT.

NOT A
WOMAN
ALIVE CAN
GIVE T'CHALLA
WHAT I CAN
GIVE.



BUT I HAVE
STUDIED YOU,
COMMANDER. I
KNOW YOUR STORY.
I KNOW YOUR
BRAVERY AND
VALOR--YOUR
COMPASSION.

HE WILL
NEED THAT.
AND HOWEVER
IT PAINS ME TO
SAY THIS...



...HE
WILL NEED
YOU.

WATCH HIM.
PROTECT HIM.
HE IS A SPECIAL
MAN.



SPEAKING
OF WHICH, I
BELIEVE WE
HAVE A BRIEFING
TO ATTEND.

**BIRNIN ZANA,
WAKANDA PRIME.**

THE
ASKARI ATTACK
CAME FROM
NOWHERE.

DOUBTLESS
WE WOULD HAVE
BEEN OVERRUN IF
NOT FOR SOME
TRULY DIVINE
INTERVENTION.

PLEASE...
IT WAS
MY HONOR
TO LEND A
HAND.

GRATEFUL
AS WE ALL ARE,
THE INCIDENT
ITSELF STILL
CONCERNS
ME.

WE
PLANNED DILIGENTLY
FOR KING T'CHALLA'S
RETURN, AND PART OF THAT
PLANNING WAS OUR STUDY
OF THE EMPIRE'S STRENGTH.

IT
APPEARS OUR
CALCULATIONS
WERE WRONG,
OKOYE.

OR THE
CALCULATIONS
WERE CORRECT,
MY KING, AND WE
HAVE ANOTHER
PROBLEM--
A SPY.

NO. THERE ARE NO TRAITORS
AMONG US. OUR RANKS
ARE FILLED SOLELY WITH
NAMELESS, LOYAL
TO THE LAST.



NOT
SOLELY.

NAKIA,
WHEN DID
YOU LAST
SPEAK WITH
ACHEBE?

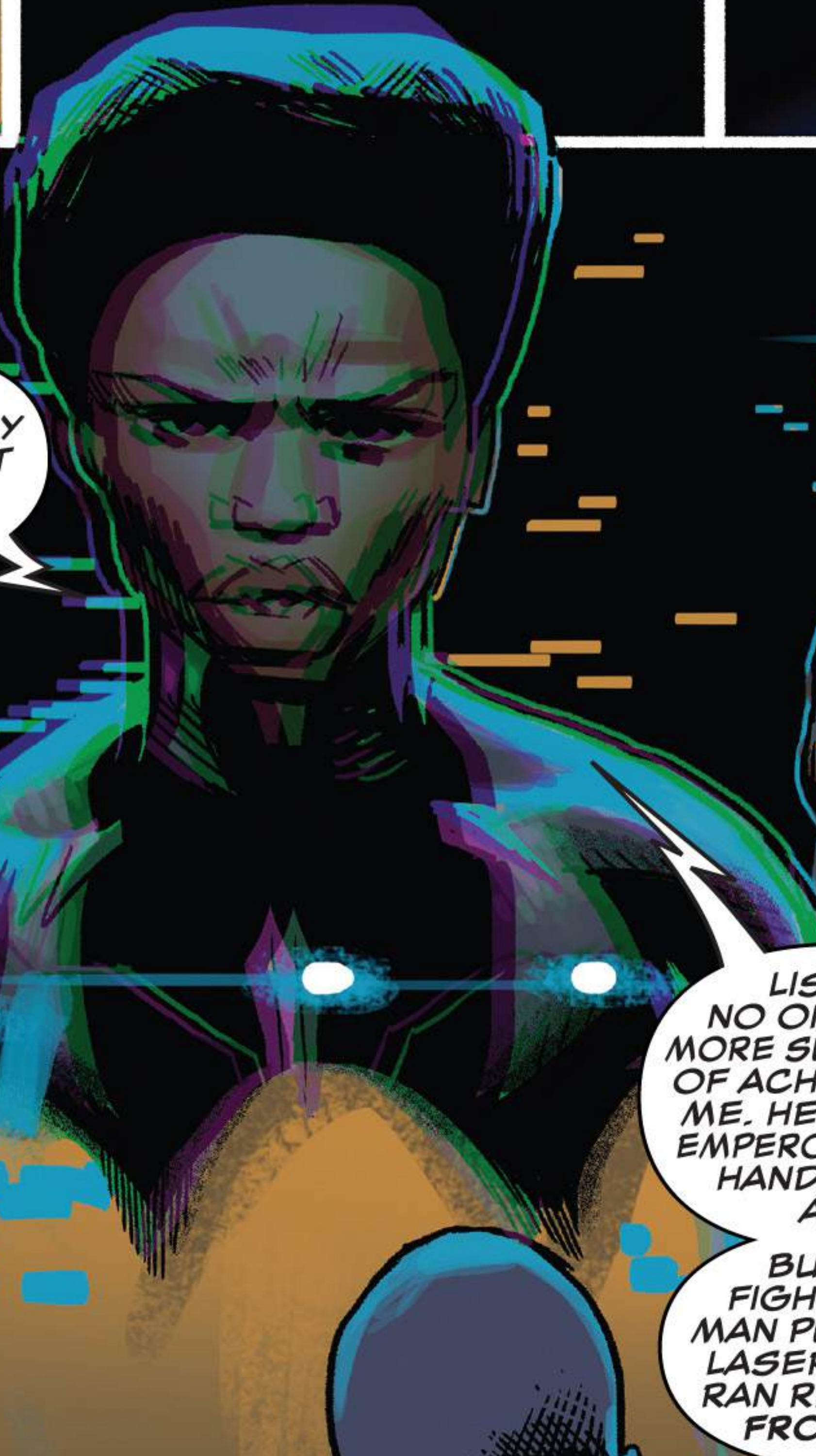
DURING THE
ATTACK.



PERHAPS
HE'S DUE
ANOTHER
CONVERSATION,
THEN?

SURELY.

AS SOON
AS WE SAFELY
PULL HIM OUT
OF HIS
COMA.



LISTEN,
NO ONE WAS
MORE SUSPICIOUS
OF ACHEBE THAN
ME. HE WAS THE
EMPEROR'S RIGHT
HAND, AFTER
ALL.

BUT IN THIS
FIGHT, THE OLD
MAN PULLED OUT A
LASER RIFLE AND
RAN RIGHT TO THE
FRONT LINES.





HE WAS INJURED FIGHTING THERE.

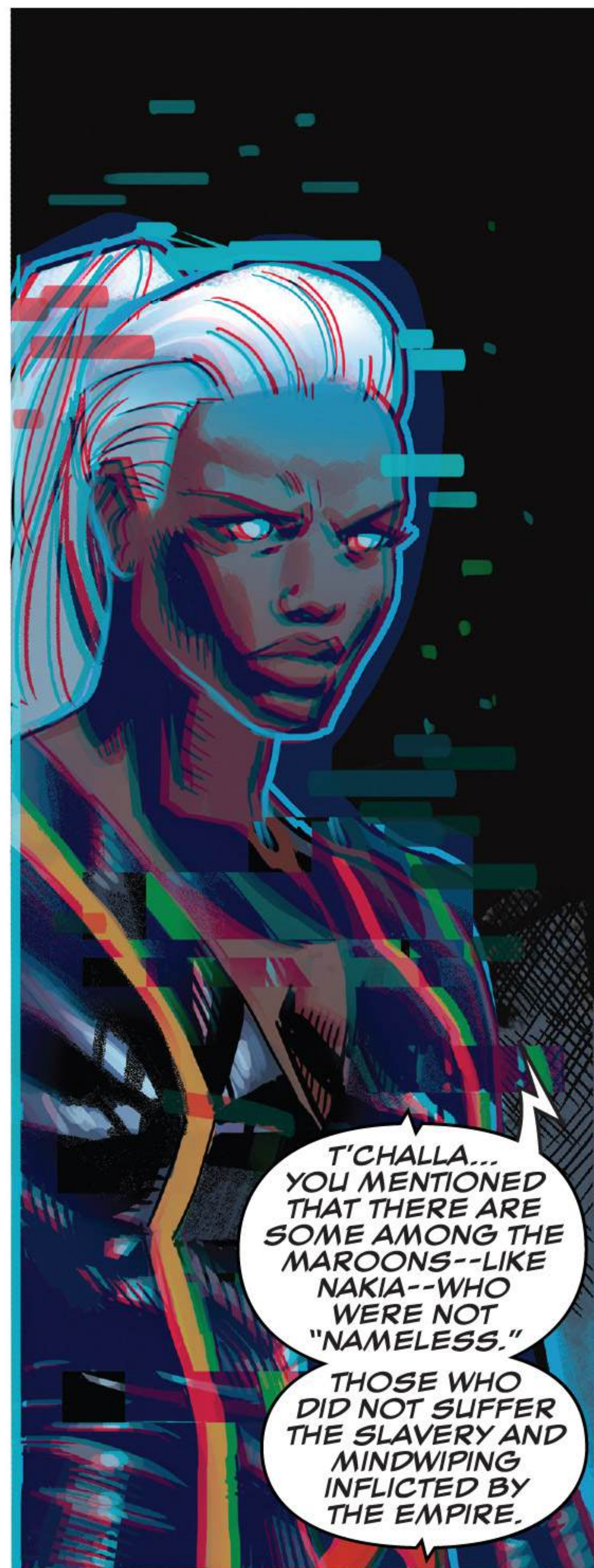
STRANGE PLACE FOR A SPY, DON'T YOU THINK?



I SAW IT FIRSTHAND, T'CHALLA.

AND HAVING SPENT MORE TIME AROUND HIM THAN ANYONE, I HAVE TO SAY THIS ABOUT HIM:

ACHEBE IS A BELIEVER.



T'CHALLA... YOU MENTIONED THAT THERE ARE SOME AMONG THE MAROONS--LIKE NAKIA--WHO WERE NOT "NAMELESS."

THOSE WHO DID NOT SUFFER THE SLAVERY AND MINDWIPING INFLICTED BY THE EMPIRE.

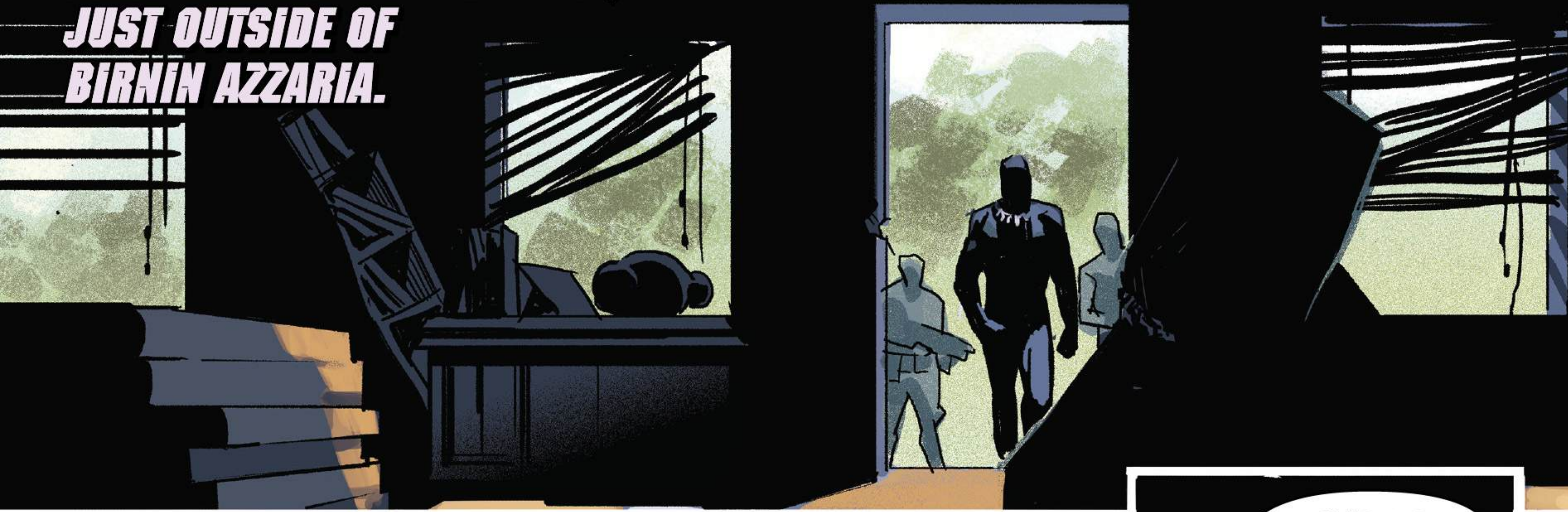


I HESITATE TO RAISE THIS, BUT IT MUST BE SAID...



PERHAPS A CONVERSATION WITH THE MOST POWERFUL OF THEM IS NOW IN ORDER.

HOME OF CHANGAMIRE,
JUST OUTSIDE OF
BIRNIN AZZARIA.



I WOULD
ASK IF YOU'VE
FOUND ANYTHING
OF INTEREST...



...BUT YOU
ARE A GOD,
ARE YOU NOT?
POWER
INCARNATE.

YOU HAVE
SEEN MORE OF
MORTAL AFFAIRS
THAN ANY OF
US COULD
MEASURE.



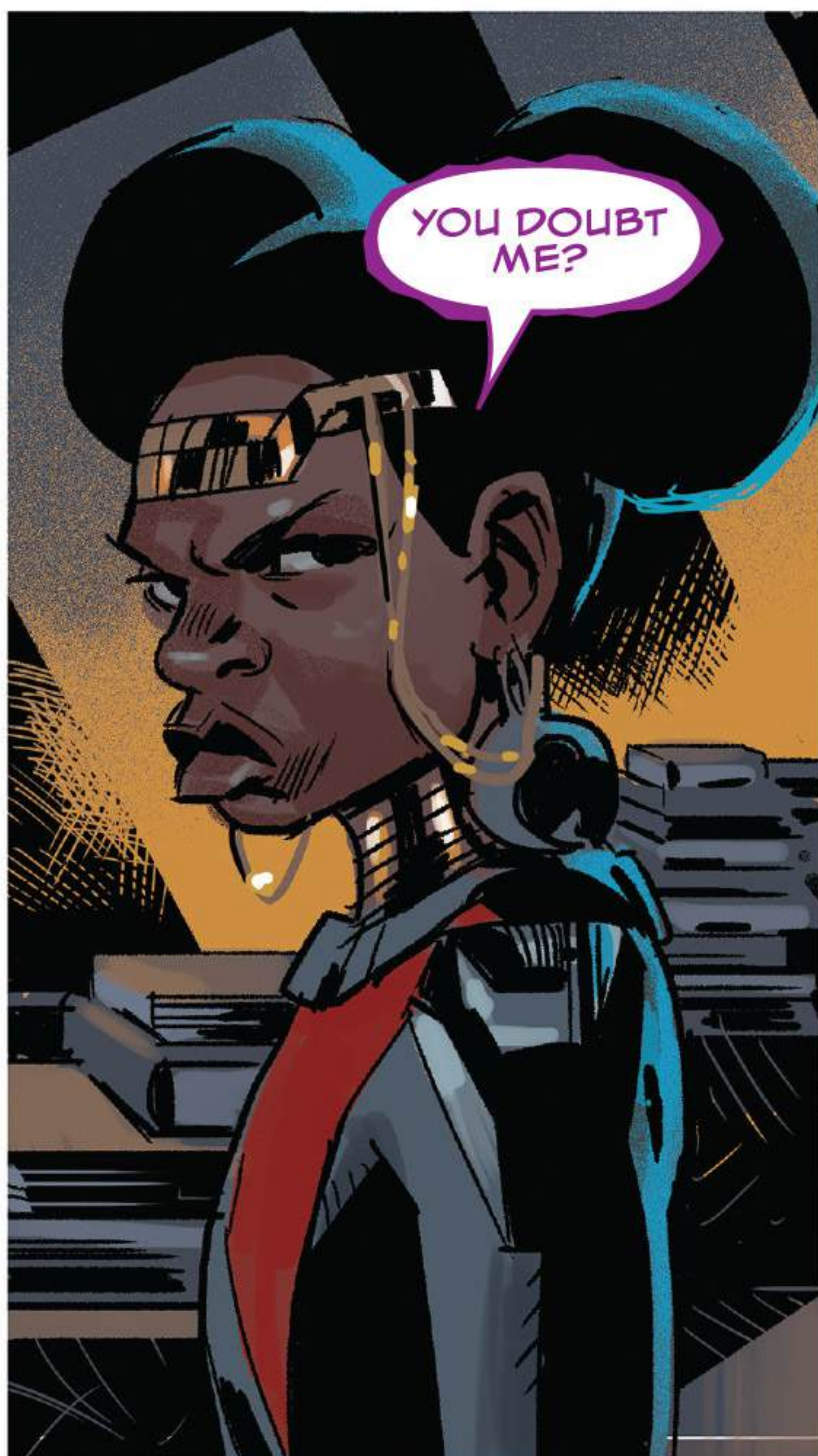
AND YET
I FIND YOU
RIFFLING THROUGH
THE RANSACKED
RETREAT OF A
MORTAL MAN.

A WISE MAN,
NO DOUBT, BUT
MORTAL ALL
THE SAME.



WHY? WHY
DOES IMMORTAL
BAST TROUBLE
HERSELF WITH
SUCH WORLDLY
THINGS?

AND FOR
THAT MATTER,
WHY DOES SHE
STILL APPEAR TO US
AS A CHILD, AND NOT
THE FEARSOME
WARRIOR WE
ONCE KNEW?



YOU DOUBT ME?



YES.

VERY MUCH.

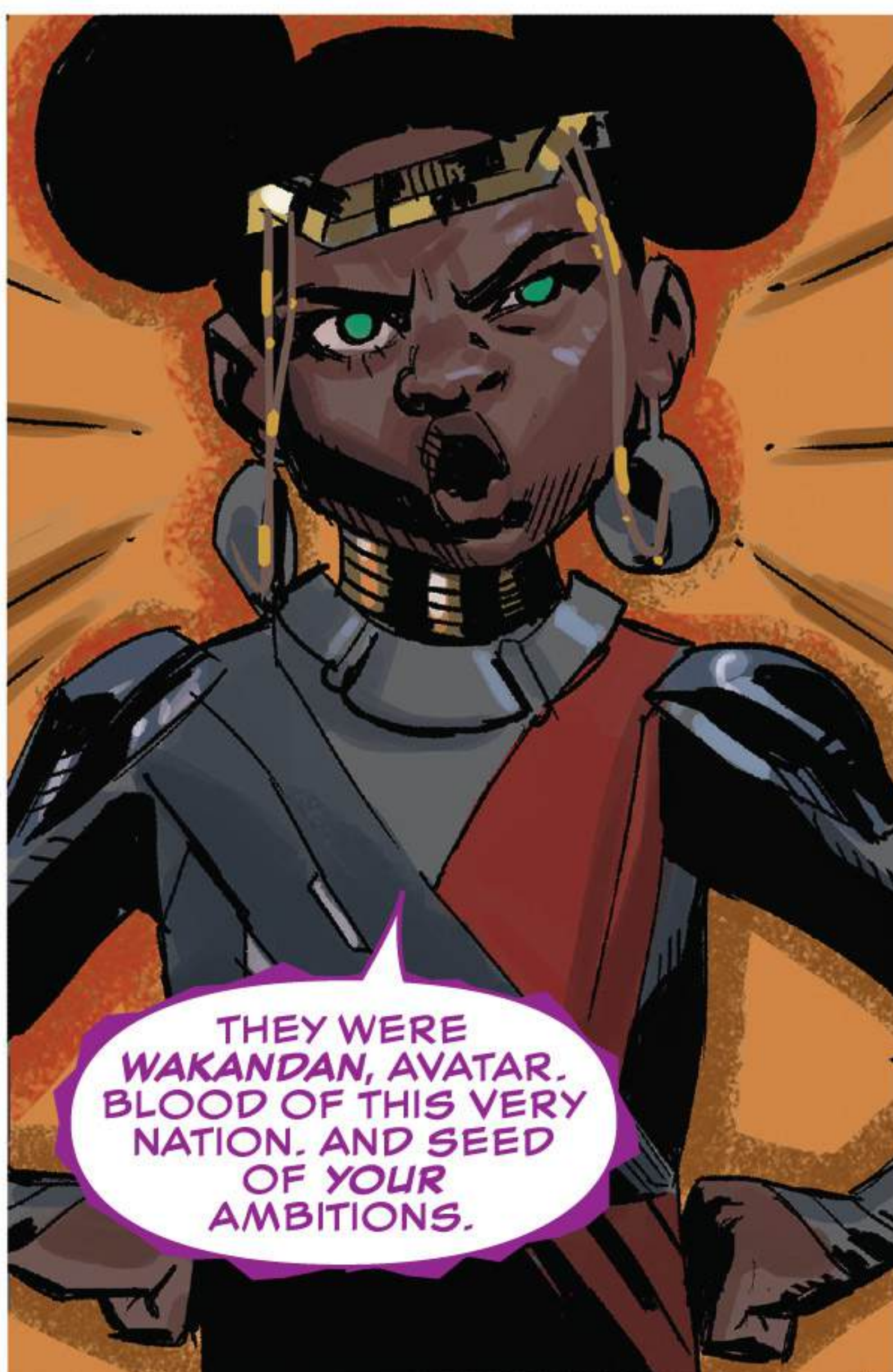


INFIDEL!

IT WAS ONLY BY MY BLESSING, MY MERCY, THAT YOUR FOREFATHERS RULED THIS LAND!



AND YET YOU ABANDONED THIS LAND AS SOON AS A BETTER BAND OF WORSHIPPERS PRESENTED THEMSELVES.



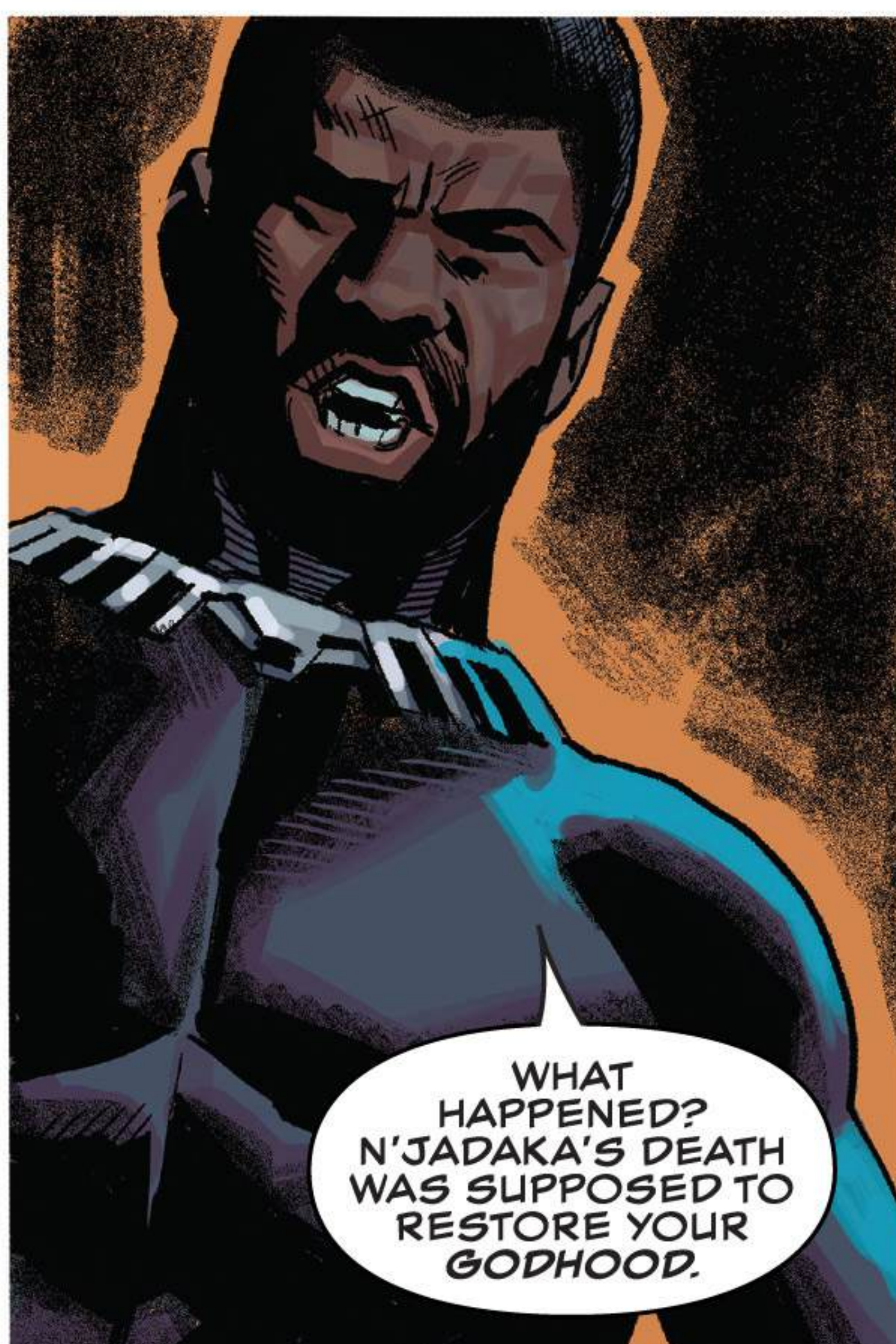
THEY WERE WAKANDAN, AVATAR. BLOOD OF THIS VERY NATION. AND SEED OF YOUR AMBITIONS.



I HAVE NOT BEEN A PERFECT KING. BUT I AM ALSO A MAN, NOT A GOD.



AND WHATEVER YOUR FORMIDABLE POWER... AT THE MOMENT, IT APPEARS, NEITHER ARE YOU.



WHAT HAPPENED? N'JADAKA'S DEATH WAS SUPPOSED TO RESTORE YOUR GODHOOD.



THE ONLY POSSIBILITY IS THAT YOU WERE NEVER A GOD AT ALL.

OR THAT YOUR PRECIOUS MAROONS FAILED TO KILL N'JADAKA.



BUT YOU KNOW THAT ALREADY, DON'T YOU?

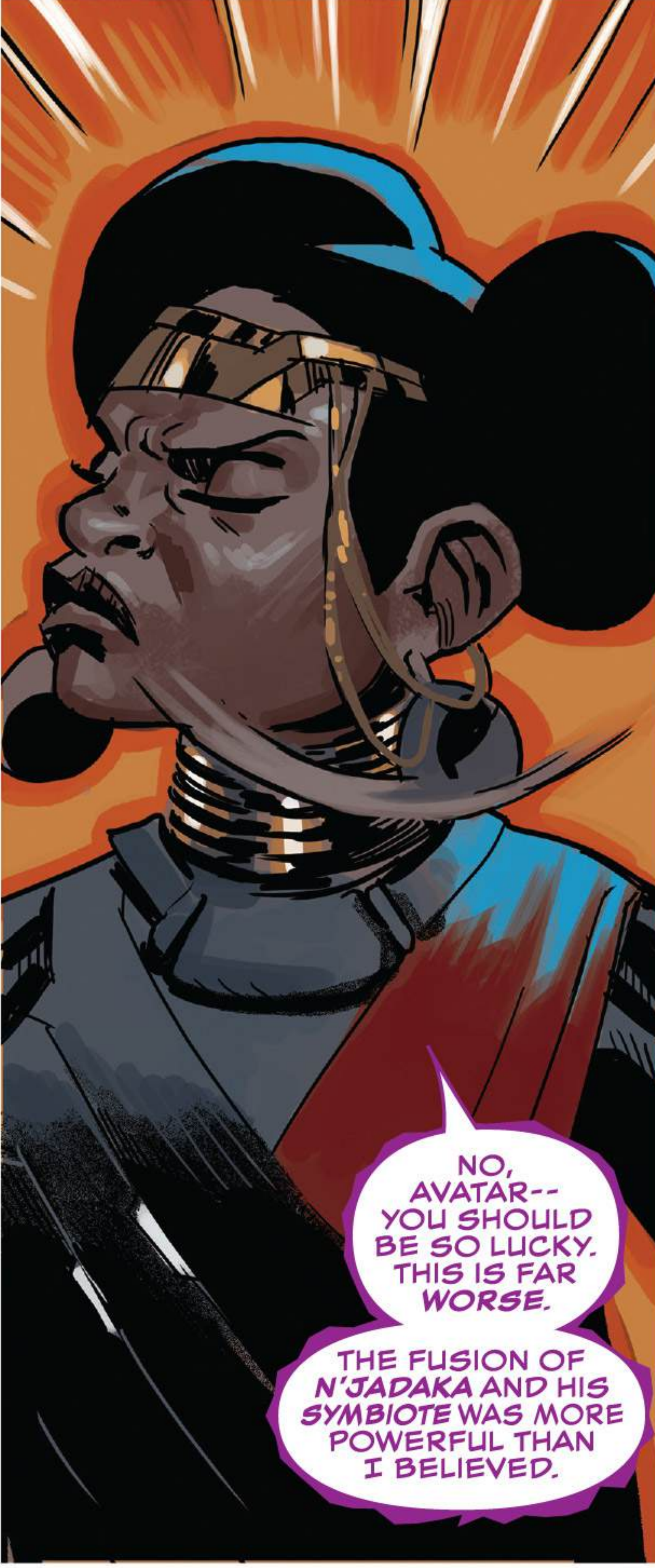
YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENED HERE, THOUGH YOU PRAYED IT HADN'T.



THERE HAVE BEEN TROUBLES BACK IN ZANJ. WE SUSPECTED A MOLE.



AND YOU SUSPECTED ME?



NO, AVATAR-- YOU SHOULD BE SO LUCKY. THIS IS FAR WORSE.

THE FUSION OF N'JADAKA AND HIS SYMBIOTE WAS MORE POWERFUL THAN I BELIEVED.



THEN HIS SPIRIT TRAVELS IN THE SYMBIOTE NOW, WHICH MEANS...



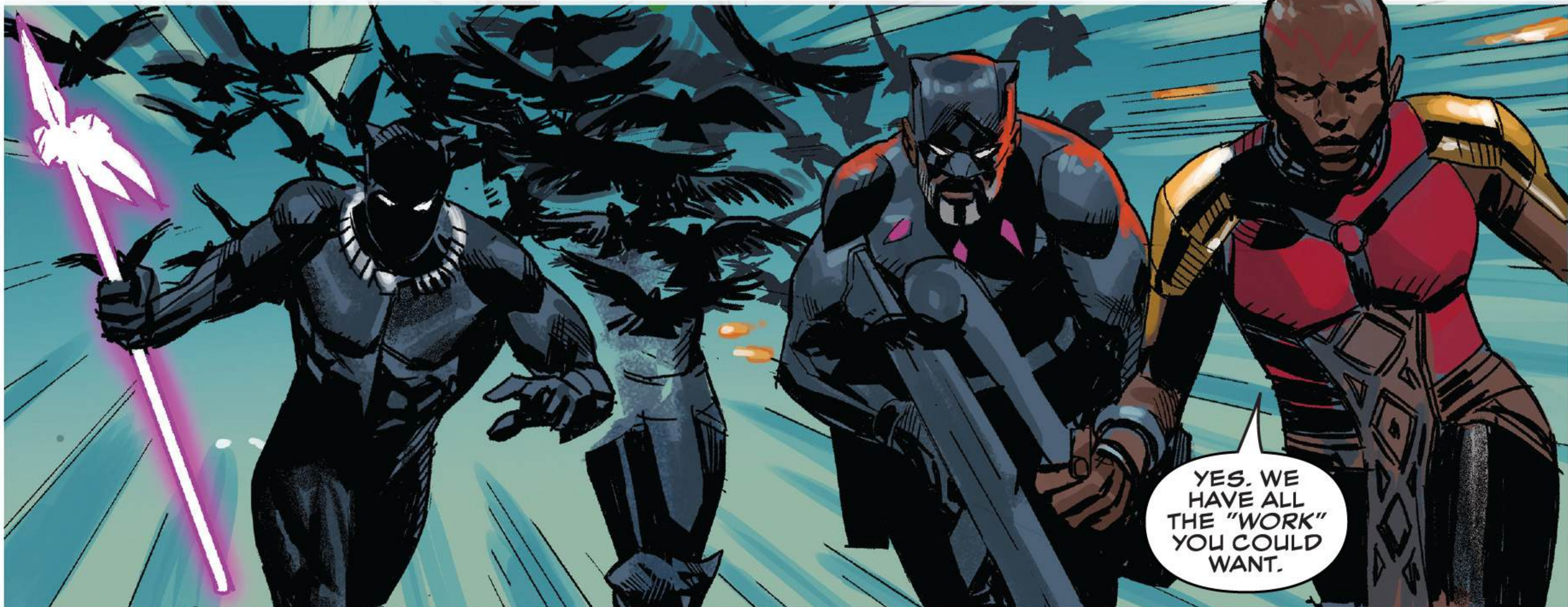
N'JADAKA IS HERE.

**SERPENT VALLEY,
WAKANDA PRIME.**

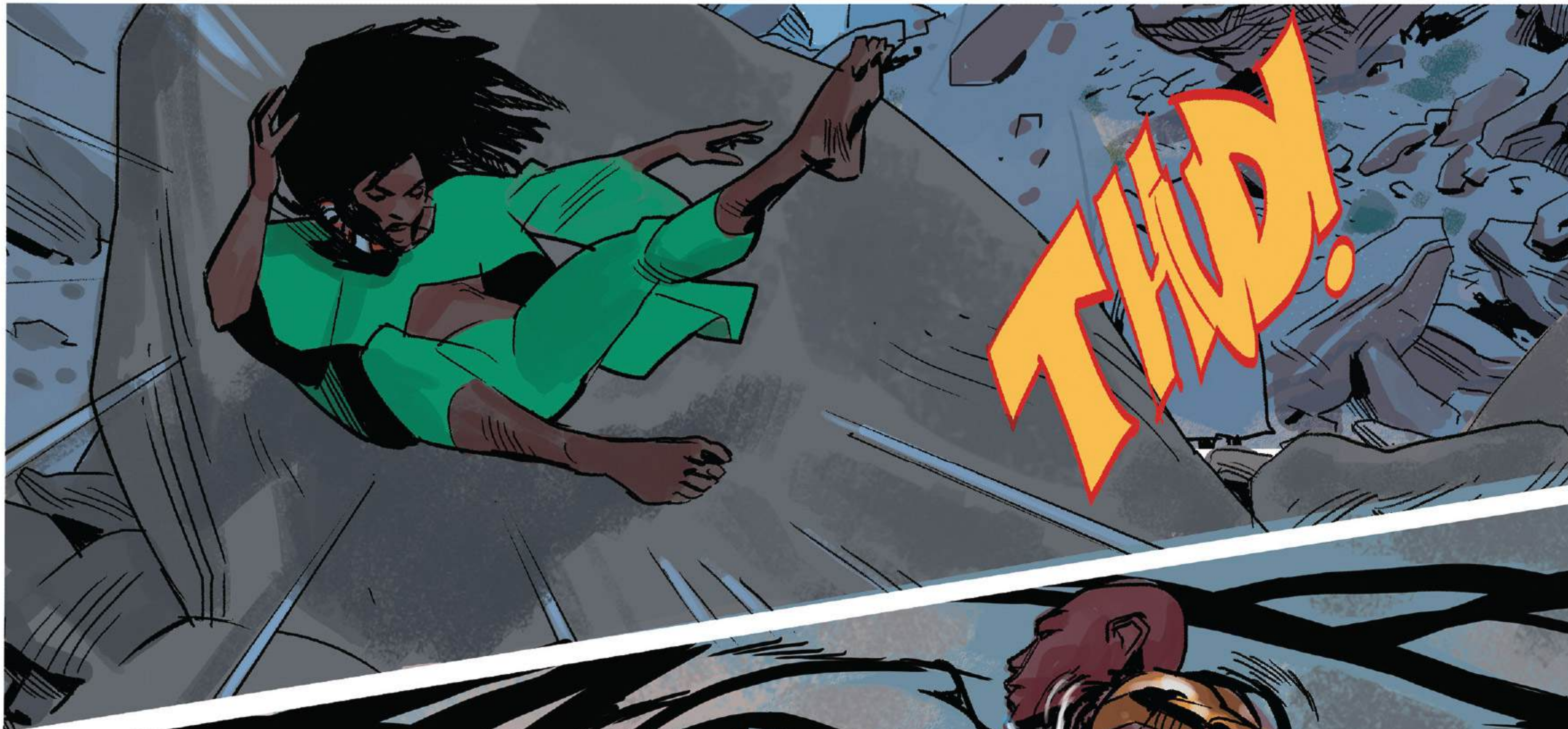




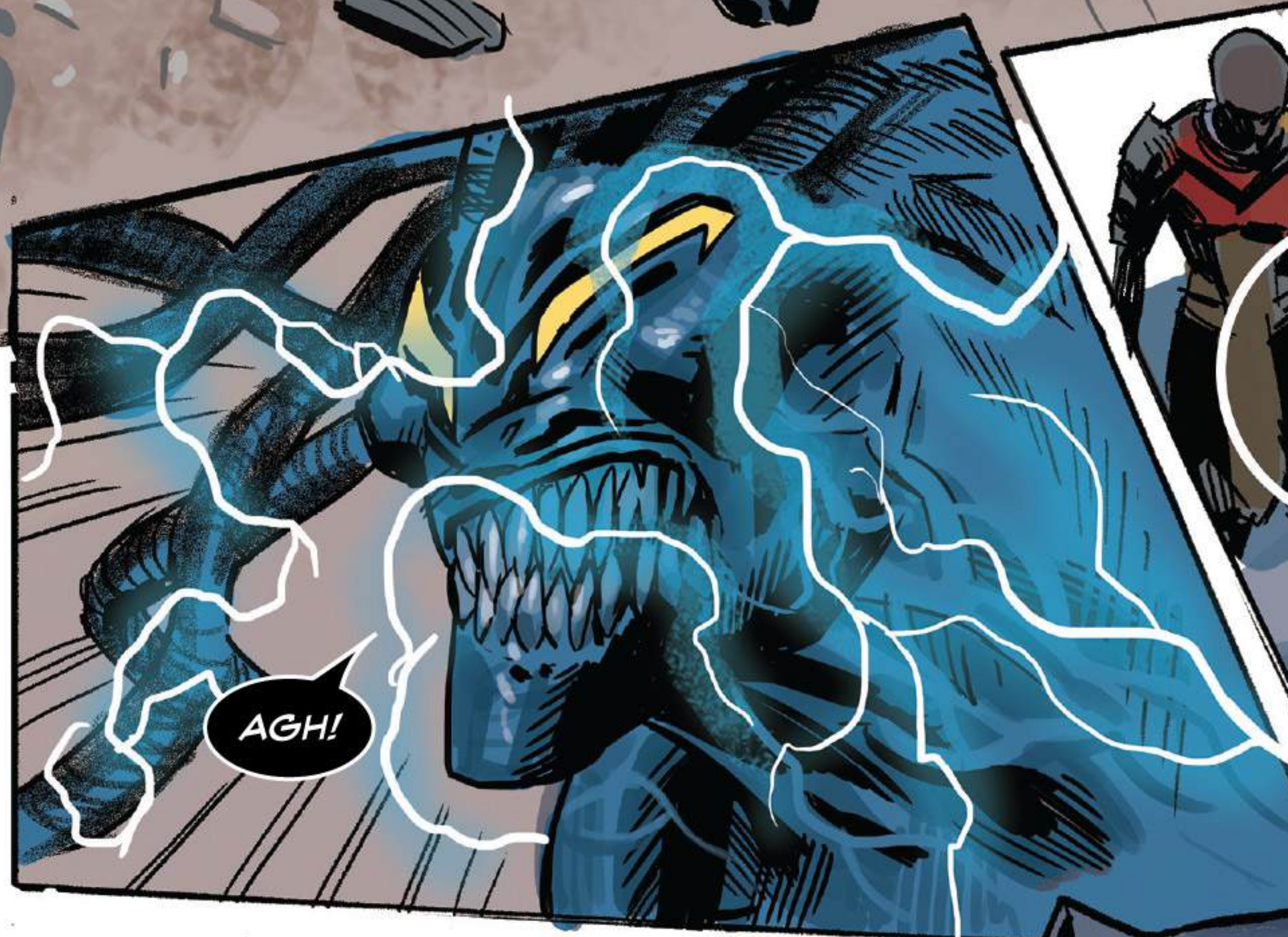
NOT
EVER.







THUD!



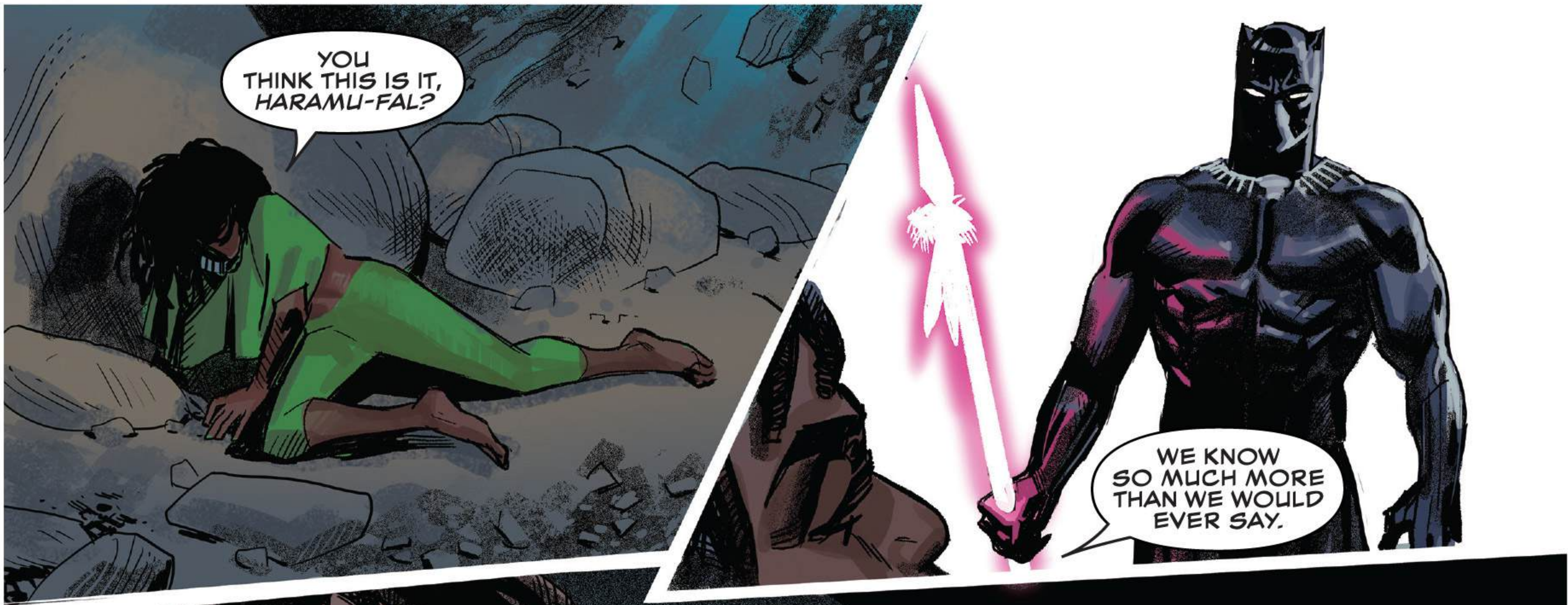
AGH!



HE'S DOWN, T'CHALLA. I'LL PUT THE CRADLE ON HIM NOW TO SECURE HIM.



GOOD. THEN GET THEM BOTH OUT OF HERE.



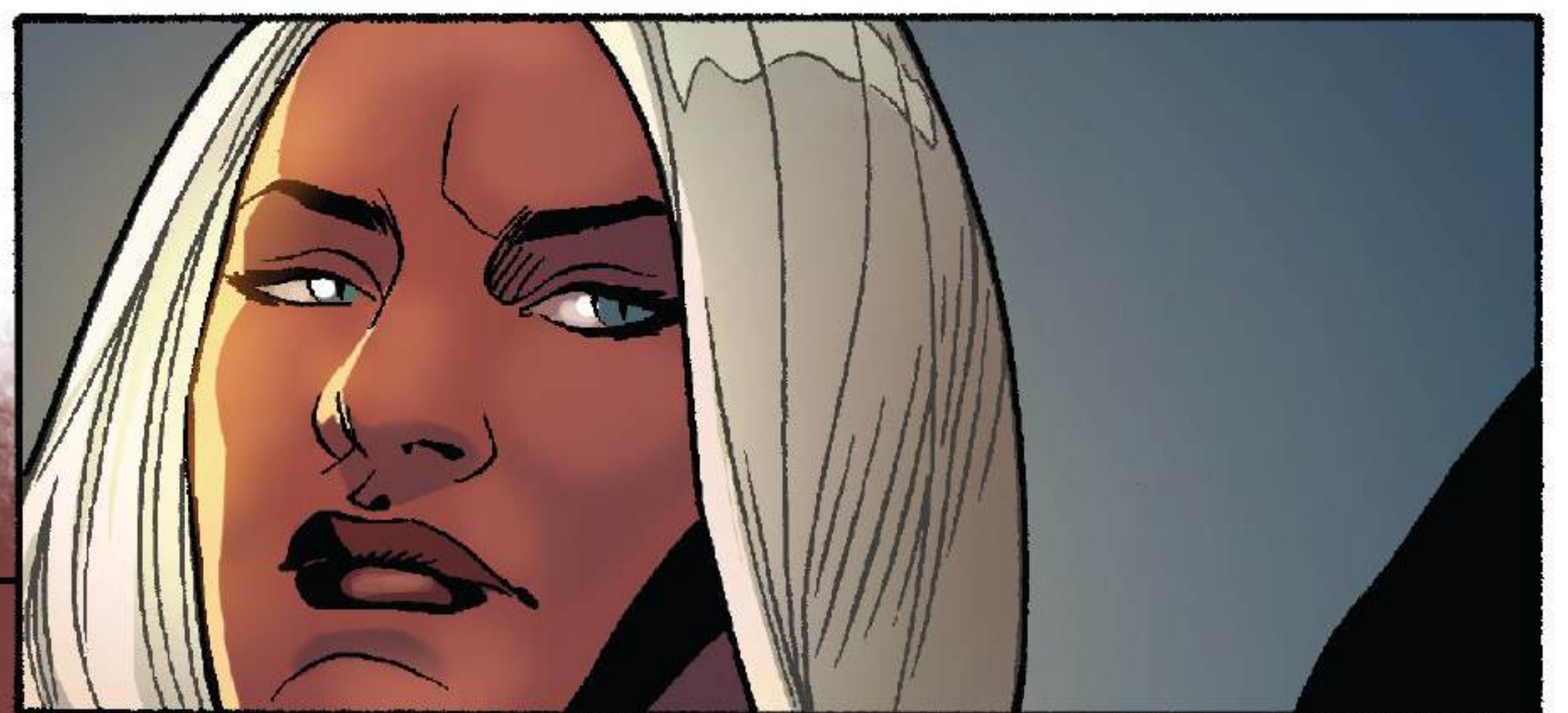
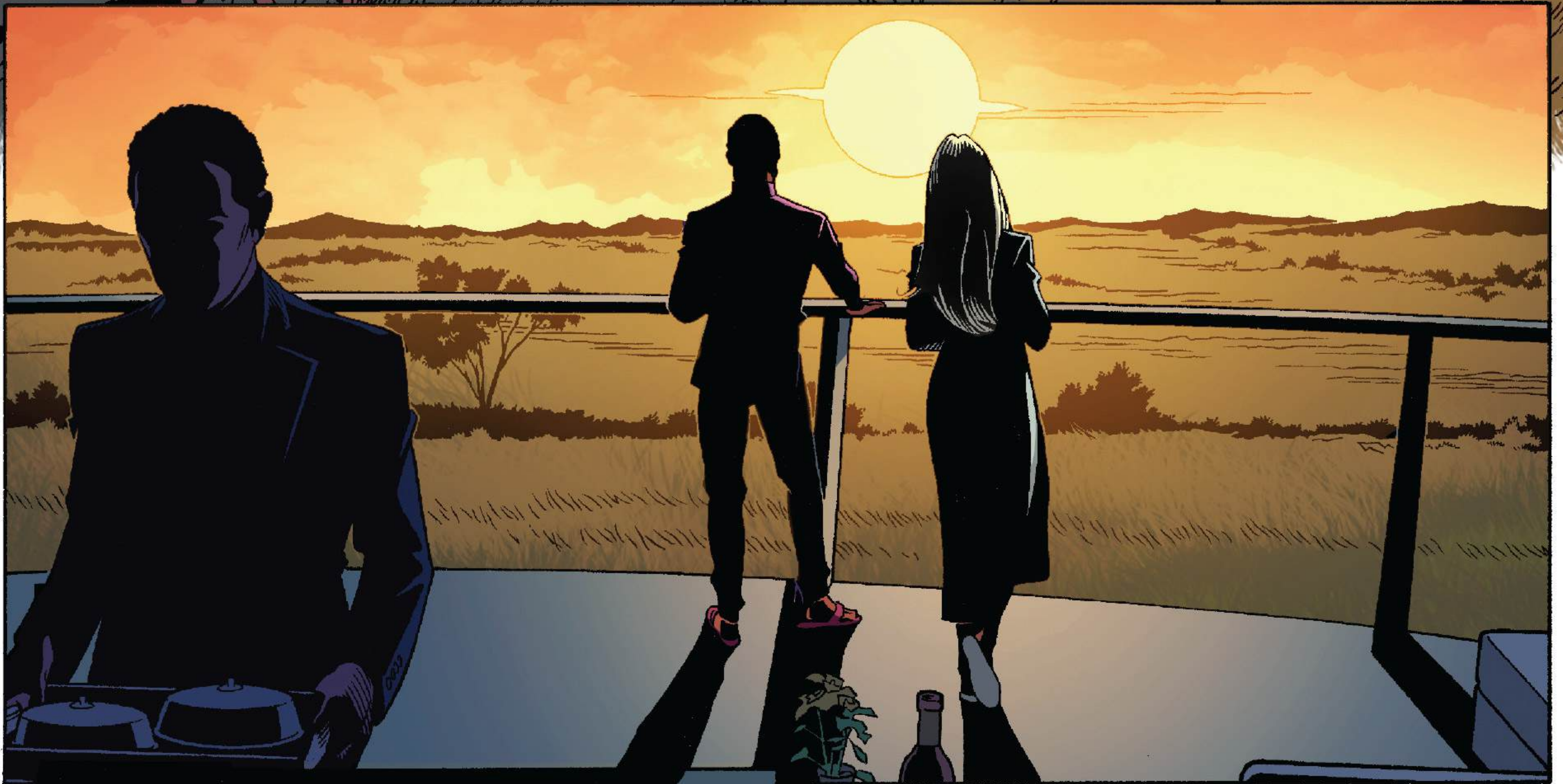
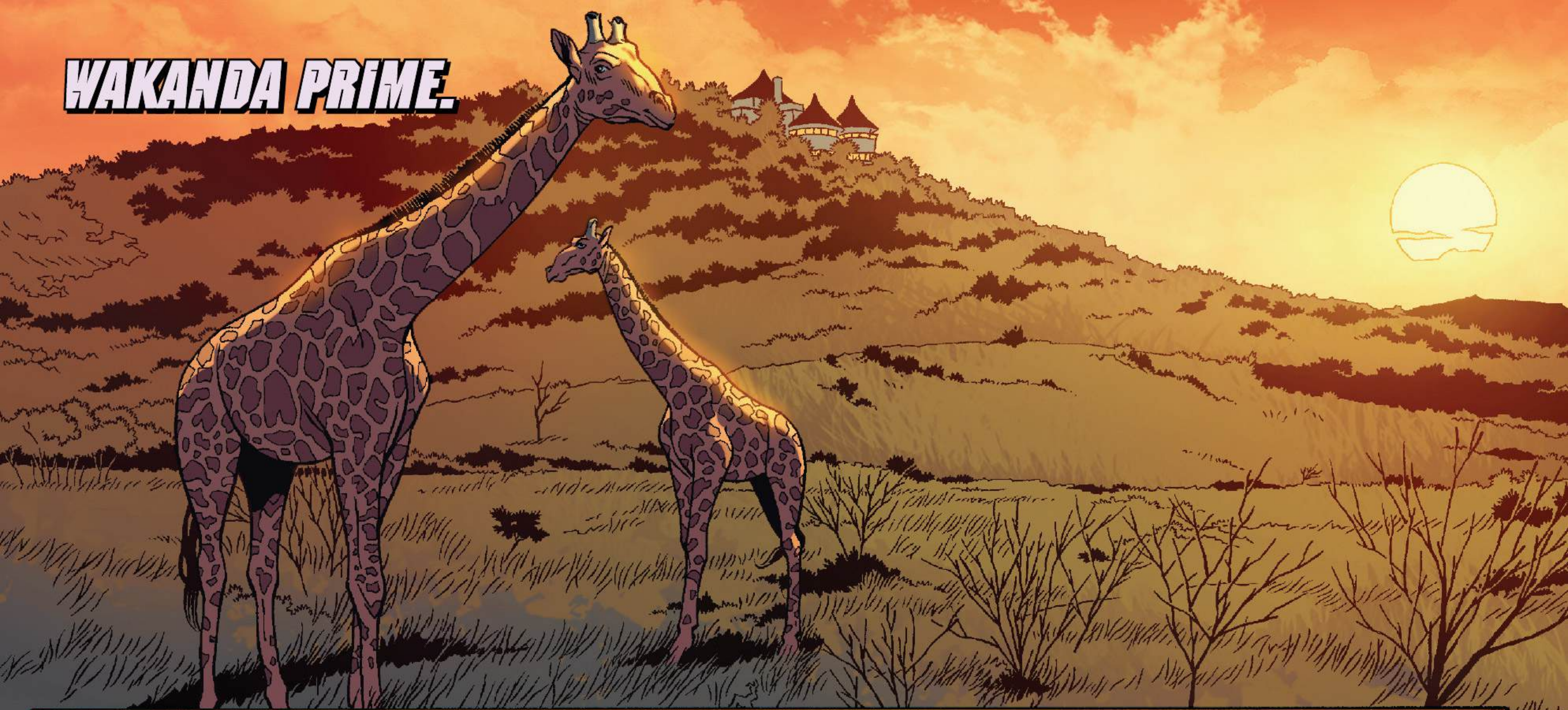


"LET ME SHOW YOU
THE TRUE FACE OF
VENGEANCE."

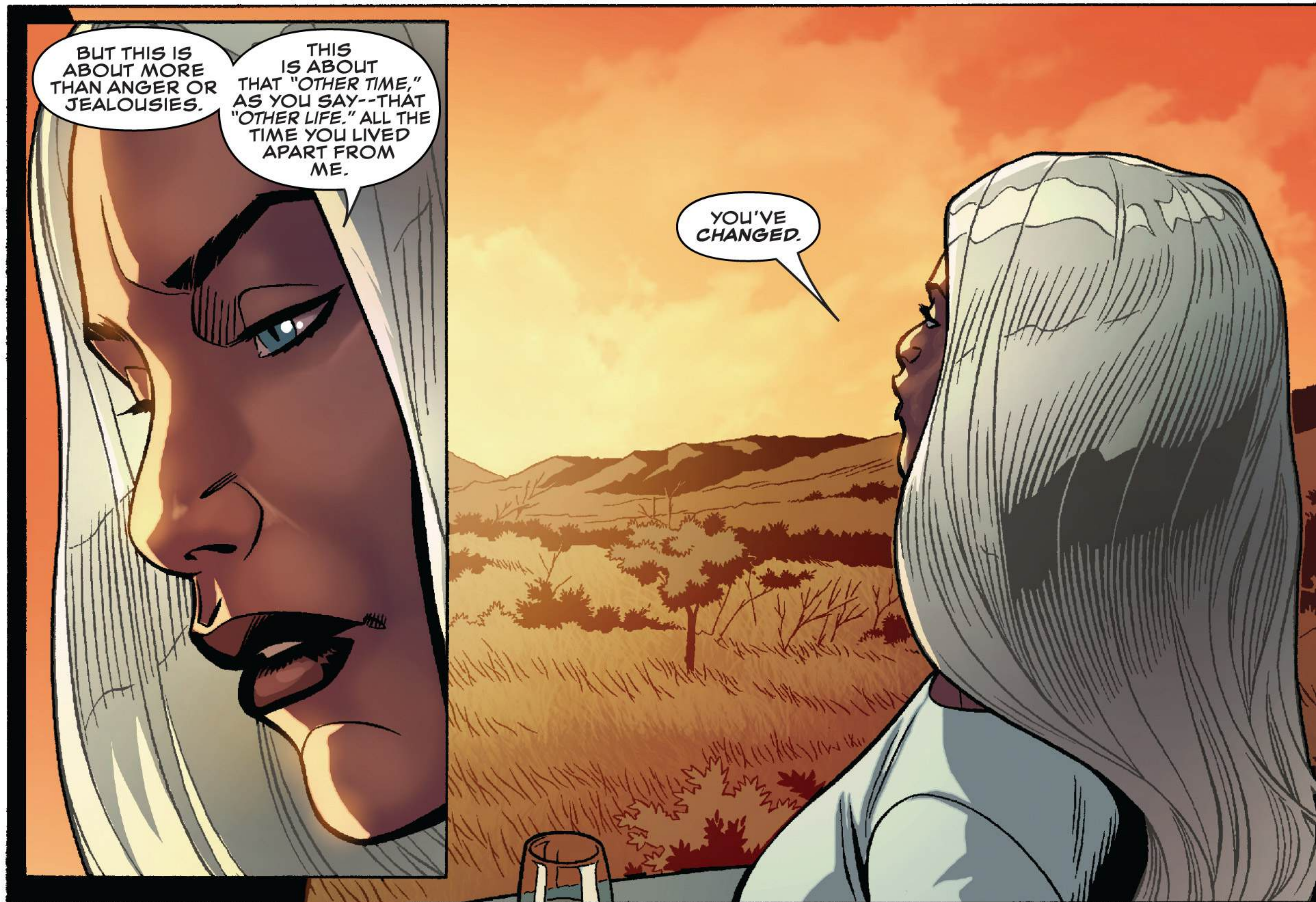


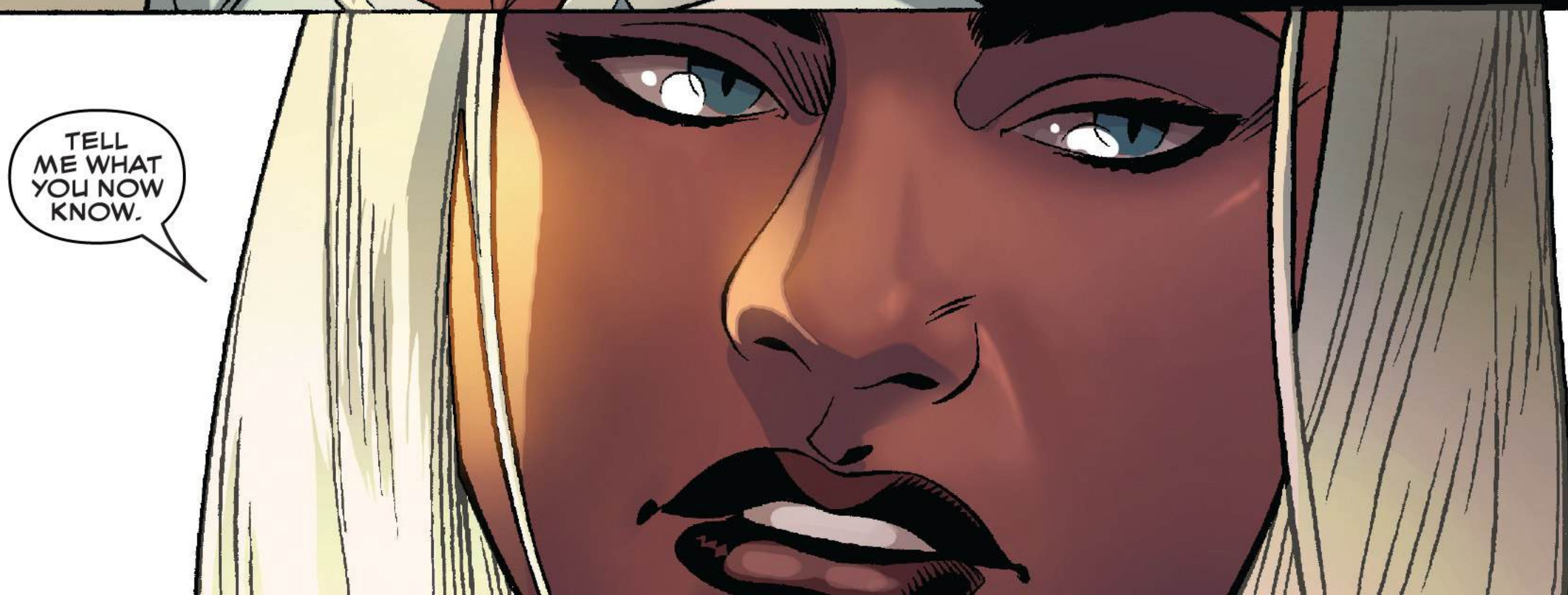
THE TRUTH BEHIND
T'CHALLA'S FALL FROM
KING TO SLAVE!

WAKANDA PRIME.



RIGHT.





"IT WAS THE DREAM
OF MY MOTHER,
FULFILLED."



"ALL OUR WISDOM, SCIENCE,
ETHICS--OUR ENTIRE WAY OF
LIFE--TOUCHING WHOLE
STAR SYSTEMS."



"IT WAS WAKANDA
UNBOUND."



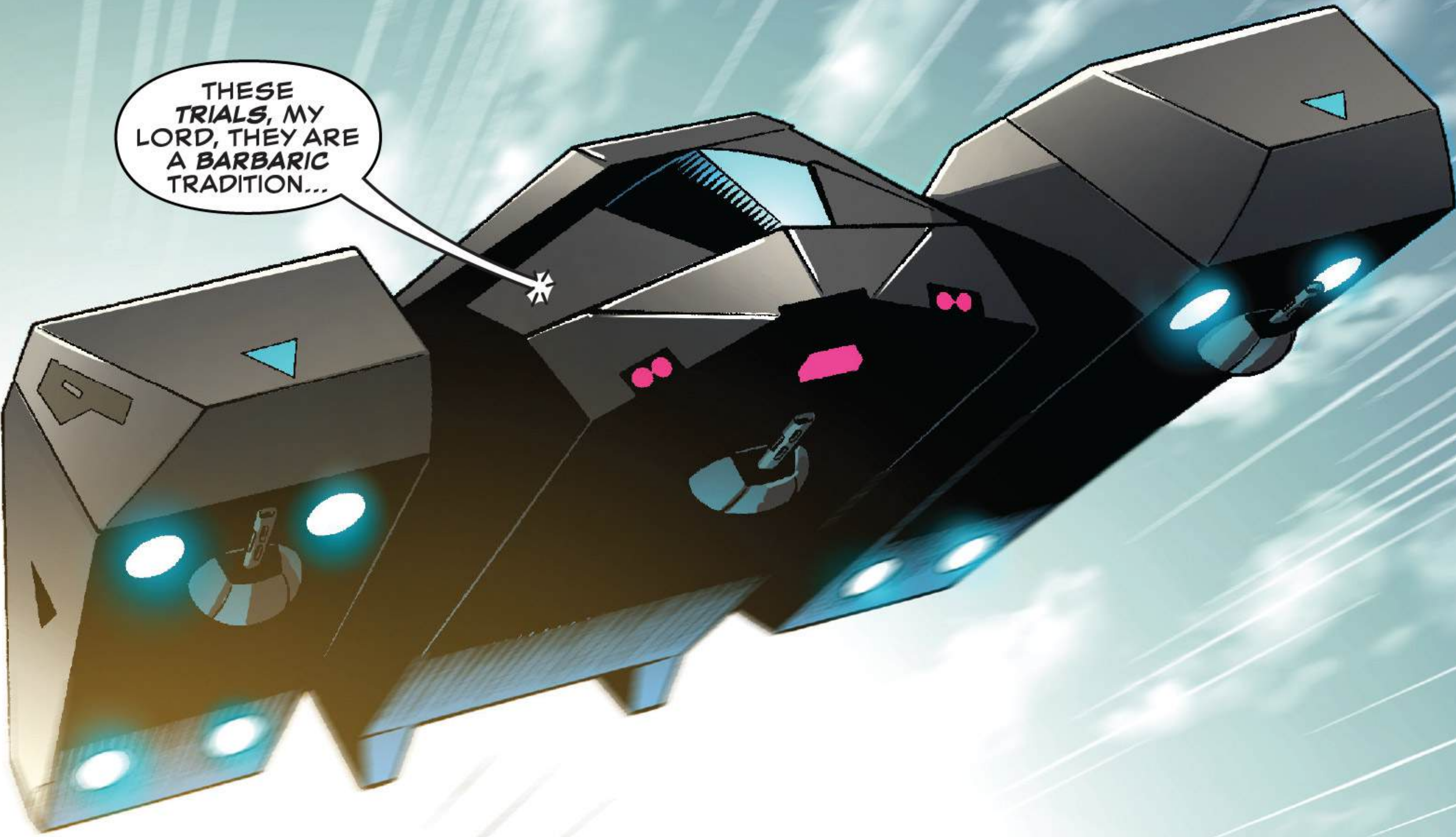
WAKANDA
AMPLIFIED,
AUGMENTED AND
EVOLVED."



MAYBE
THAT WAS THE
PROBLEM."



**INTERGALACTIC WAKANDA.
THEN.**



THESE TRIALS, MY LORD, THEY ARE A BARBARIC TRADITION...



...ONE THAT, IT IS SAID, EVEN YOU ONCE GREETED WITH DISQUIET AND UNEASE.

BUT WHEN OUR ANCESTORS ARRIVED HERE, THEY WANTED TO PRESERVE AS MUCH OF HOME-- OF WAKANDA PRIME-- AS POSSIBLE.

BELIEVE ME, I UNDERSTAND, EMPEROR N'JADAKA. AND IT IS TRUE I NEVER LIKED THE TRIALS.

BUT BEING HERE, SO FAR FROM BIRNIN ZANA, I SEE NOTHING WRONG WITH RE-ASSERTING MY ROOTS.



SO, YES. I WILL PARTICIPATE.

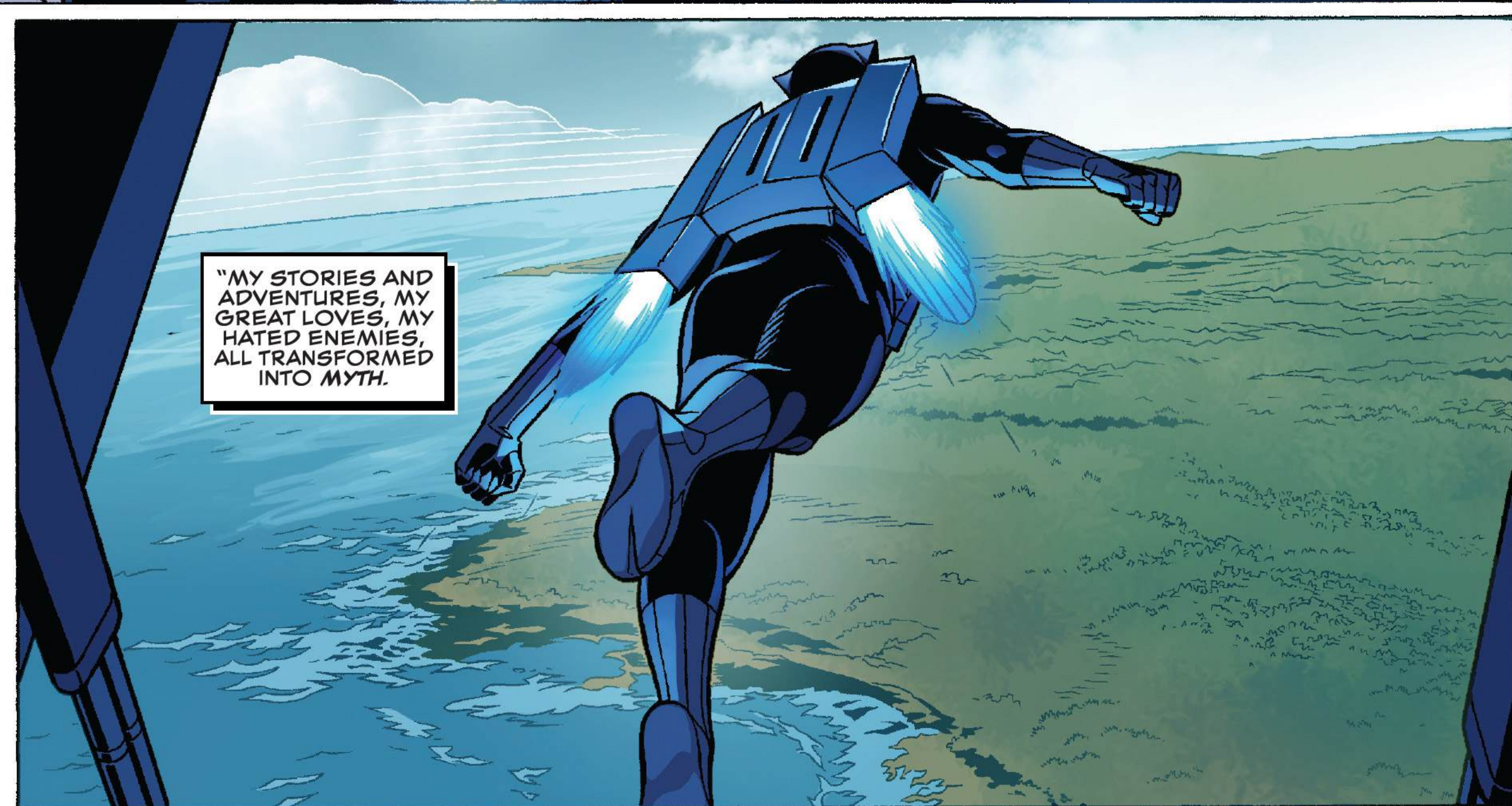
GOOD. FOR WHEN IT COMES TO THE RIGHTFUL AVATAR OF BAST...



...WE'D HATE FOR THERE TO BE ANY DOUBT.



"FROM THE MOMENT I
ARRIVED ON PLANET BAST,
ORORO, I WAS ANOINTED
AS A PROPHESIED SAVIOR.



"MY STORIES AND
ADVENTURES, MY
GREAT LOVES, MY
HATED ENEMIES,
ALL TRANSFORMED
INTO MYTH.



"IN THIS WAKANDA,
I WAS NOT JUST A
KING...



"...I WAS A
MYTHICAL HERO.



"AND WHAT WAS
A HERO WITHOUT
HIS TRIALS?



"WITHOUT HIS
LABORS?"





"AND THERE WAS SOMETHING FREEING IN THIS."



"NO NATION ON MY SHOULDERS..."



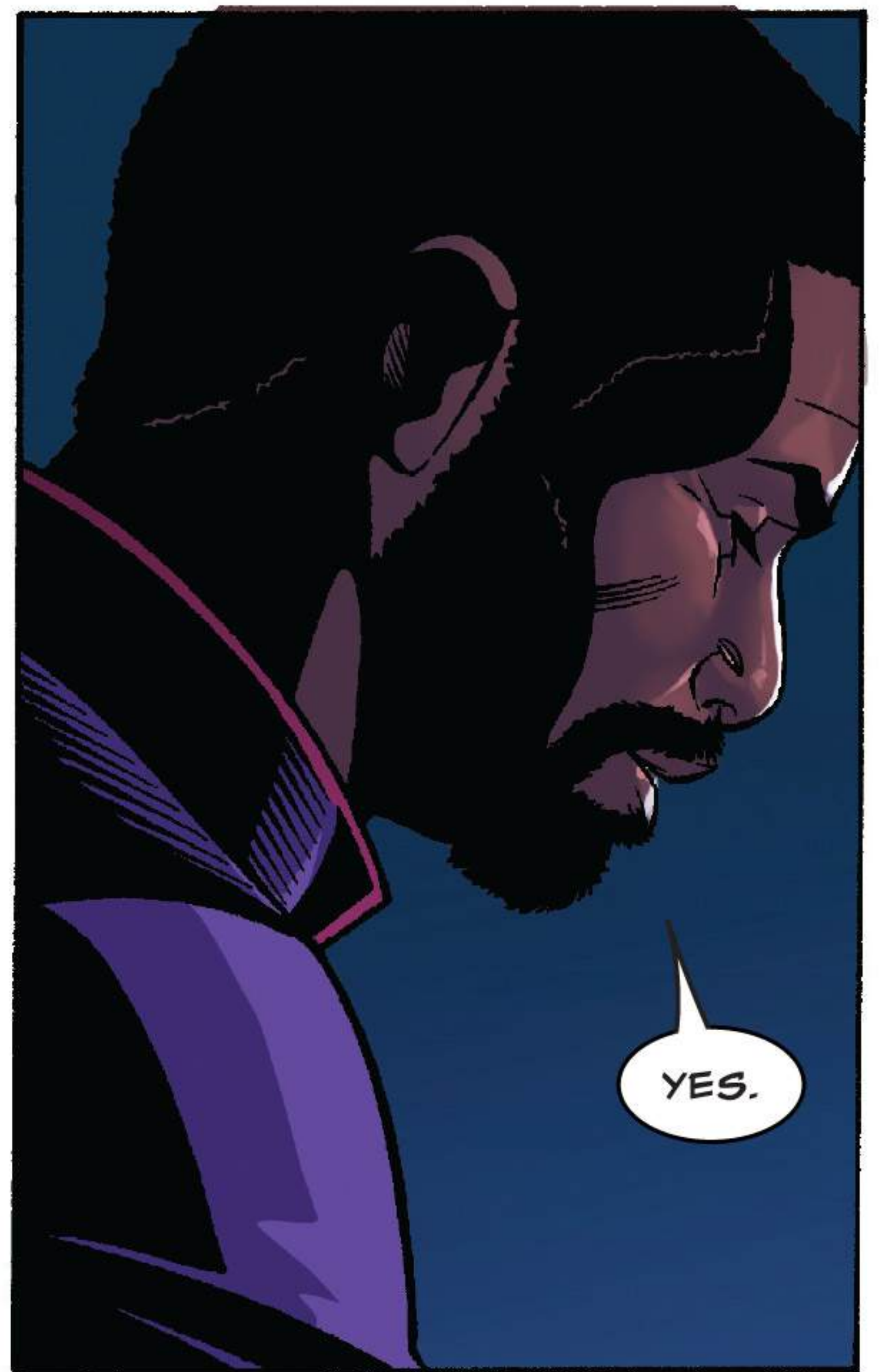
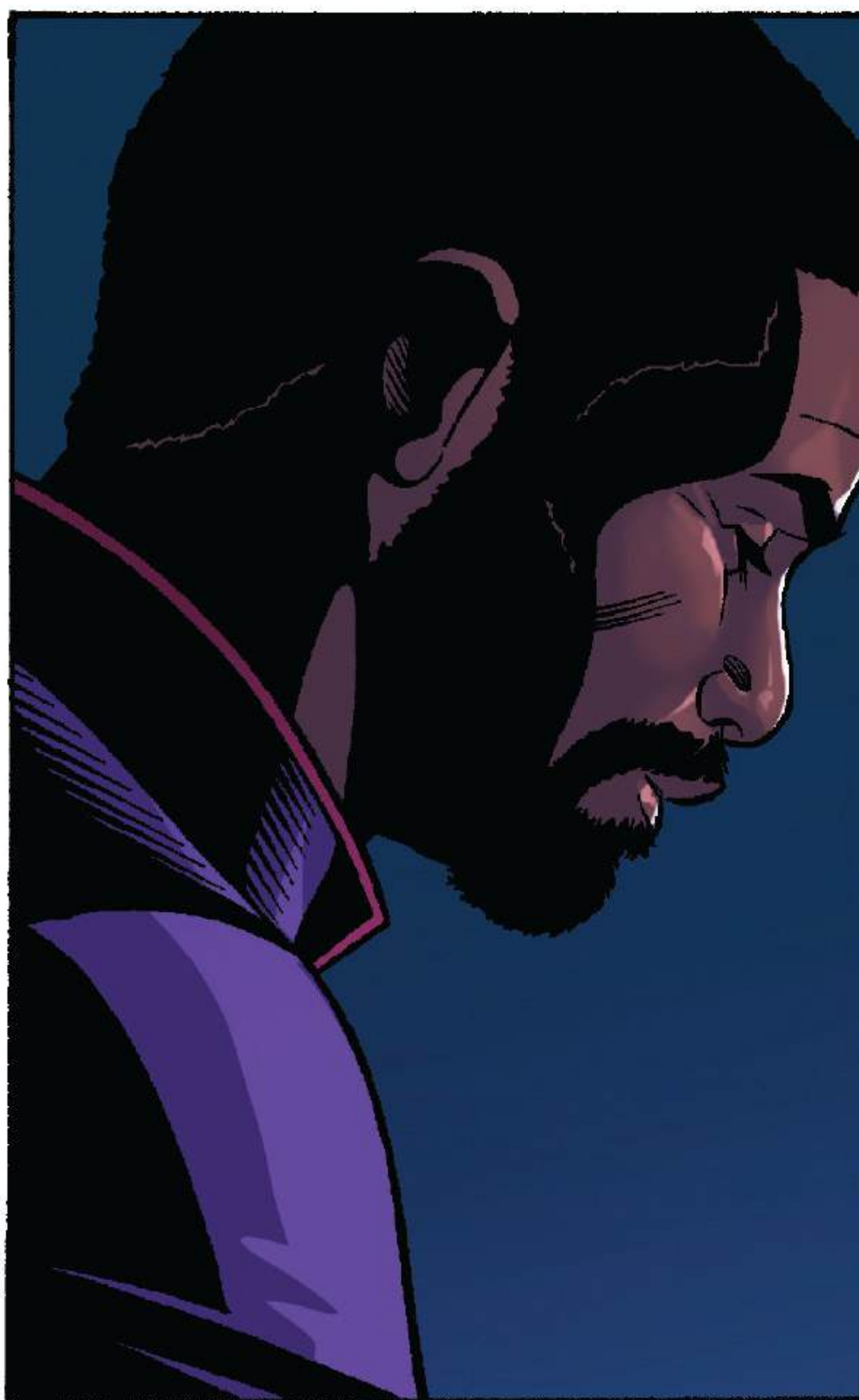
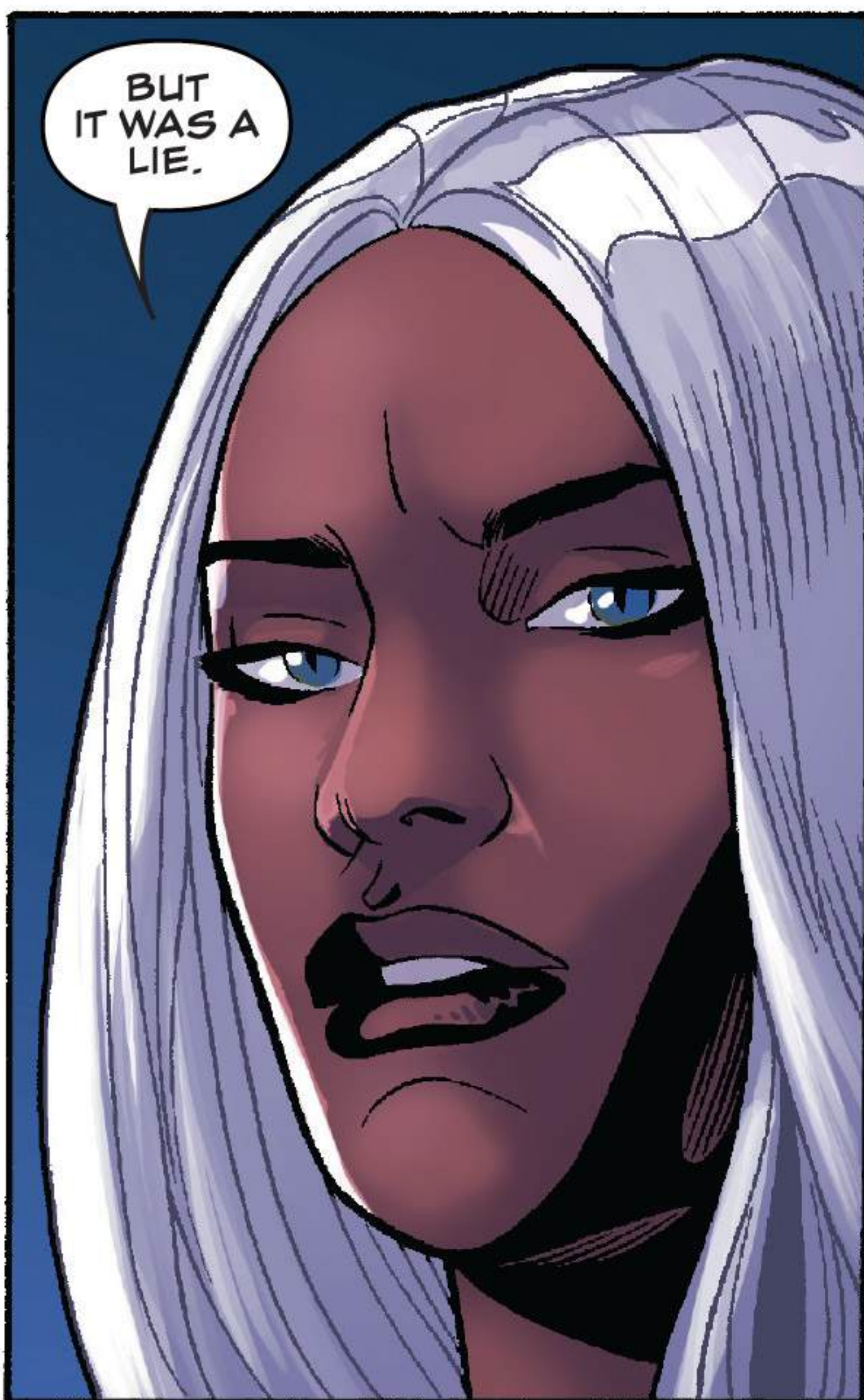
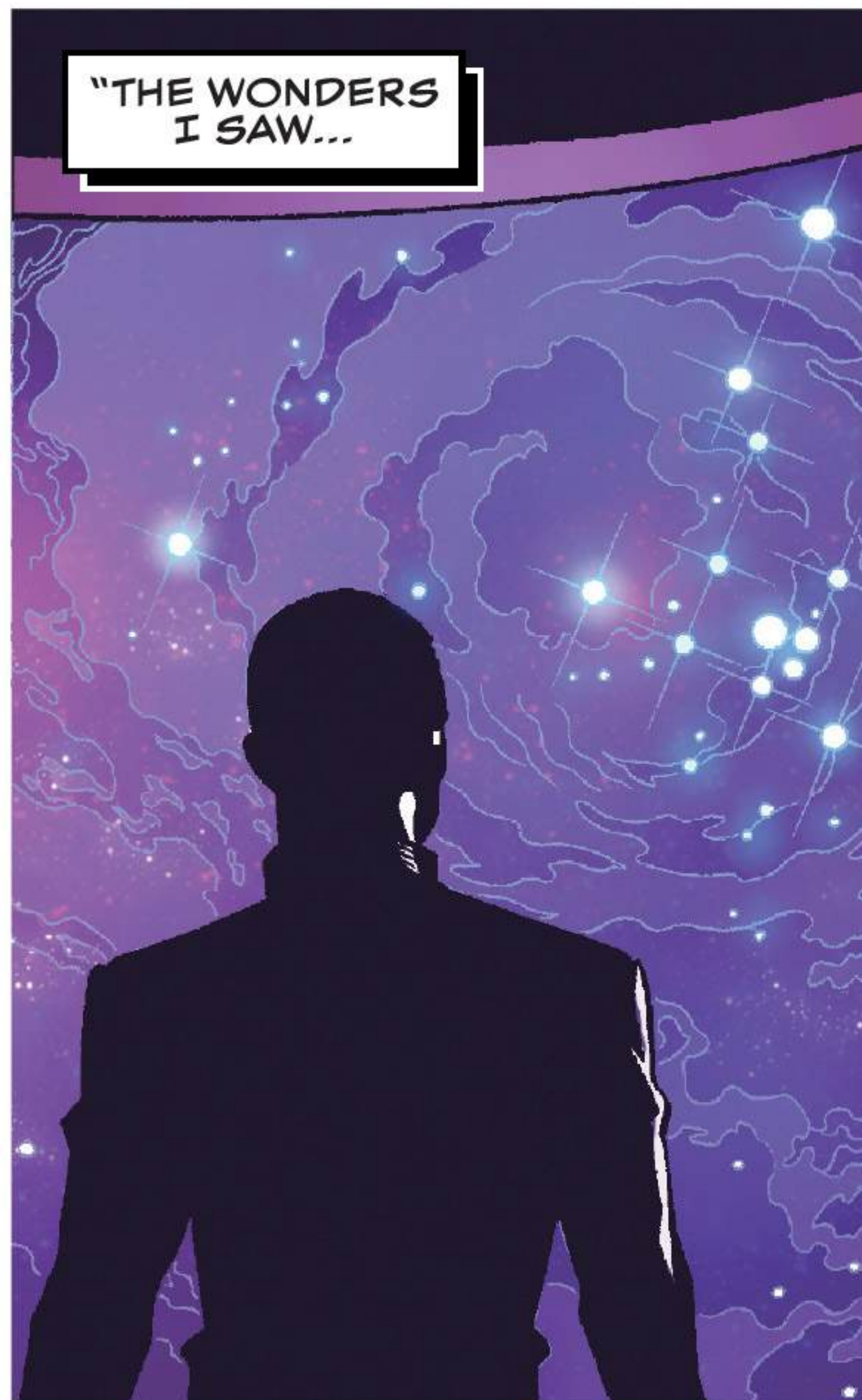
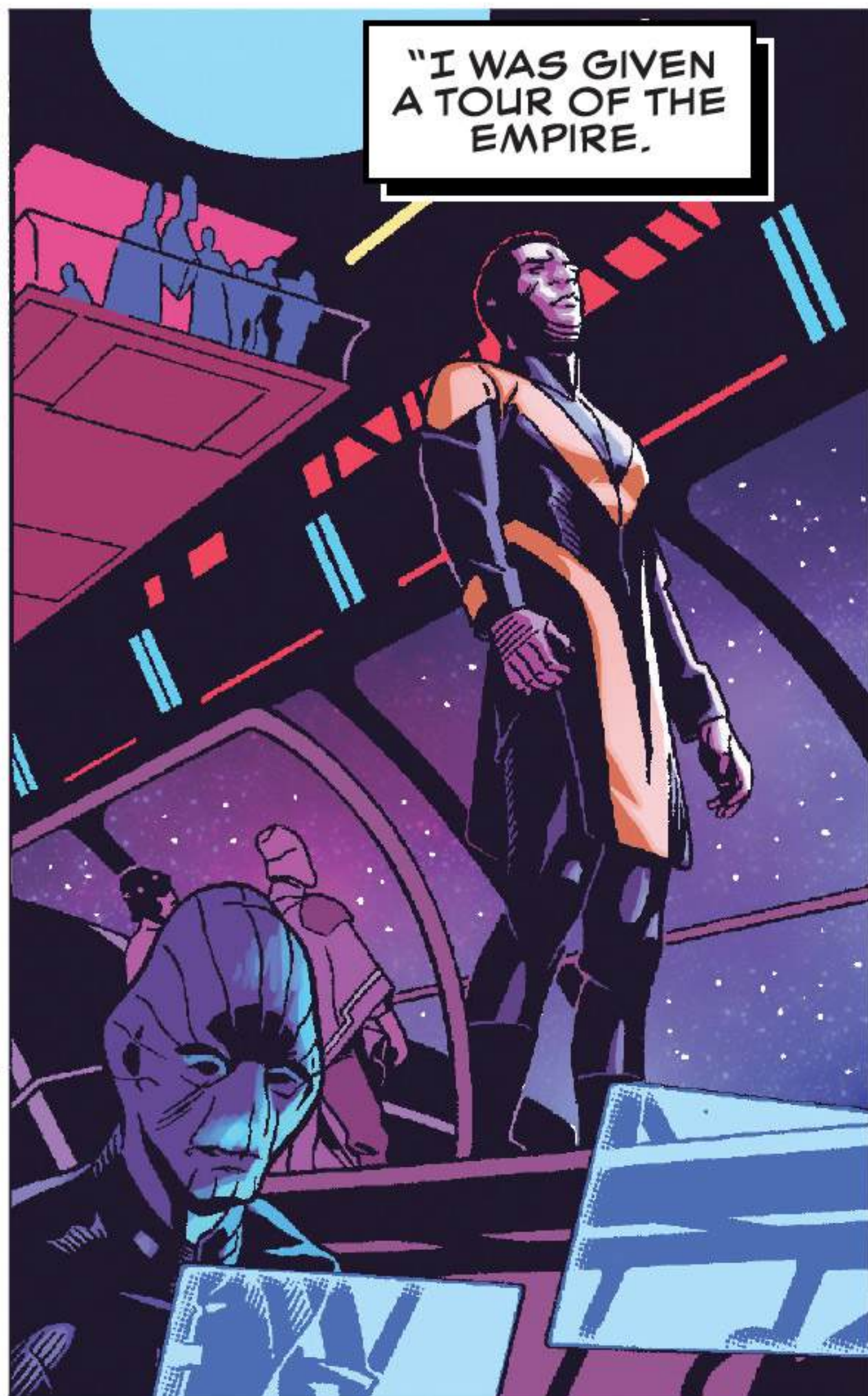
"NO ANCESTRAL PAST..."



"AND I DISCOVERED THAT THIS WAS THE REAL LABOR, THIS WAS THE TRIAL:"



"TO FIND MYSELF NOT JUST AMONGST MY LINEAGE, BUT ALSO CUT OFF FROM IT."



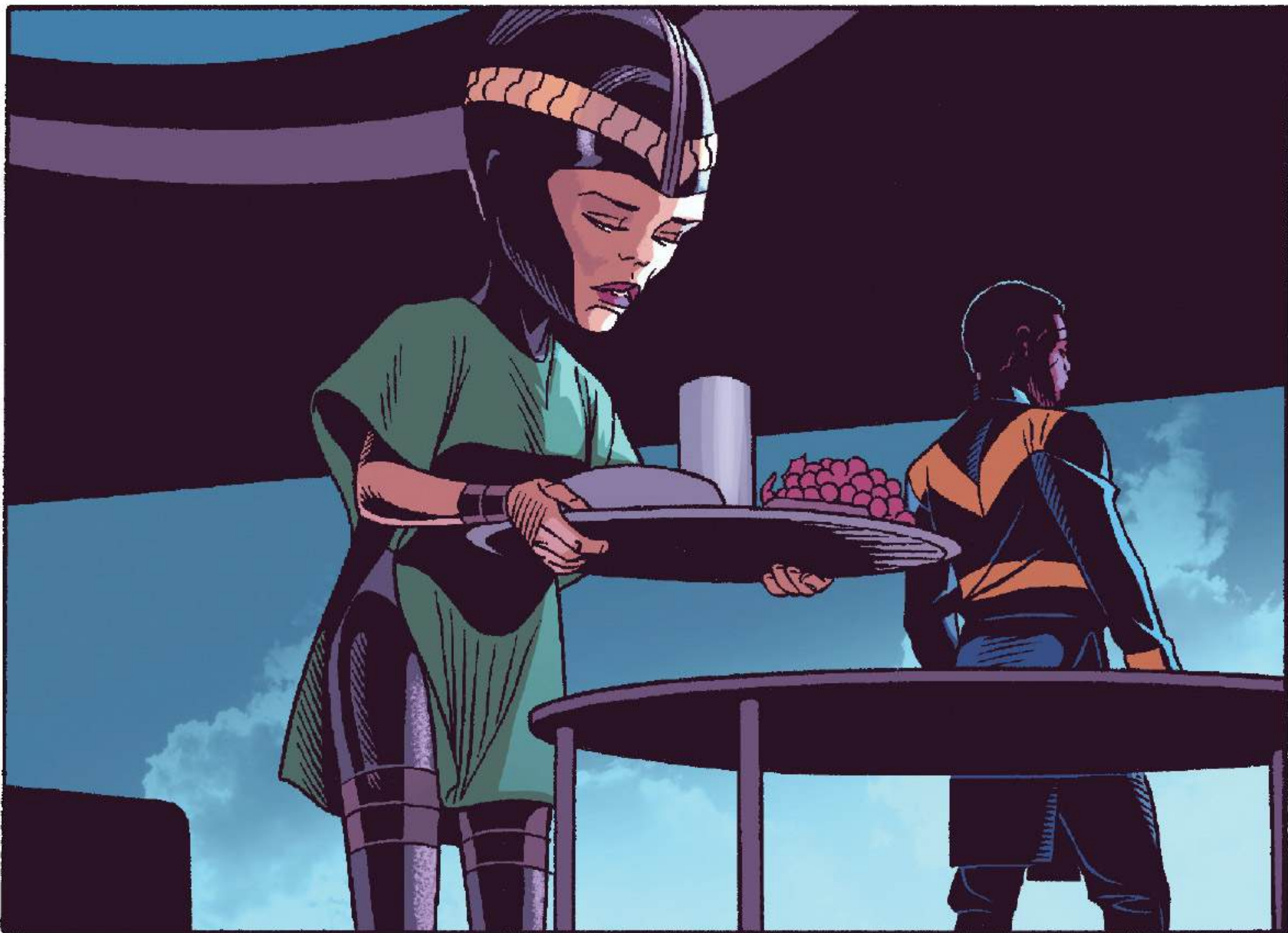


"AND I FELT IT, BECAUSE
THE JOY OF MY TRIUMPH
SOON FADED..."

"...LEAVING ONLY A
PROFOUND AND
DEEP SADNESS."



"TRY AS I MIGHT,
I COULD NOT FIND
THE *SOURCE* OF
MY DESPAIR."



IT WAS ALL
AROUND ME,
ORORO, AND
I DID NOT
SEE IT.

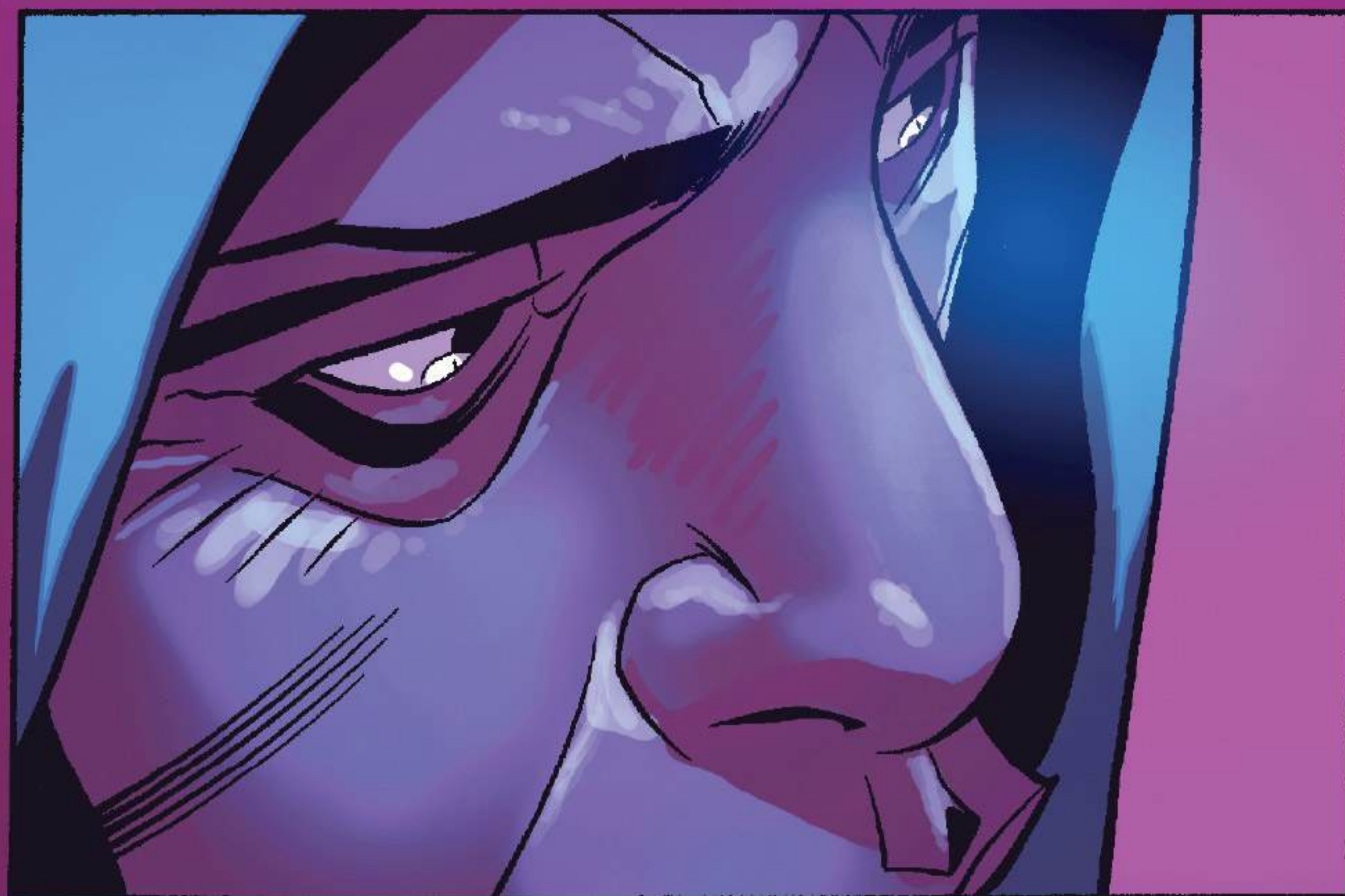


"AND NOW I THINK
I DID NOT WANT
TO SEE IT."

"THERE WERE THOSE WHO TRIED TO TELL ME."

THANK YOU FOR MEETING US HERE, DAMISA-SARKI.

WHY ALL THE SECRECY, COUNSELOR?





THIS IS NOT ABOUT A NAME. THIS IS ABOUT THE FATE OF THE EMPIRE.

I'VE SERVED N'JADAKA FOR HIS ENTIRE REIGN. I SAW HIM RISE FROM WARRIOR TO EMPEROR. I KNOW WHAT HE IS CAPABLE OF.

AND WHAT HE IS MOST CAPABLE OF IS CONSOLIDATING POWER AND ELIMINATING ALL THREATS.

AND WHAT THREAT COULD BE GREATER THAN A LEGEND MADE REAL?

I SEE.



AND WHAT PROOF OF YOUR EMPEROR'S MACHINATIONS DO YOU HAVE FOR ME?



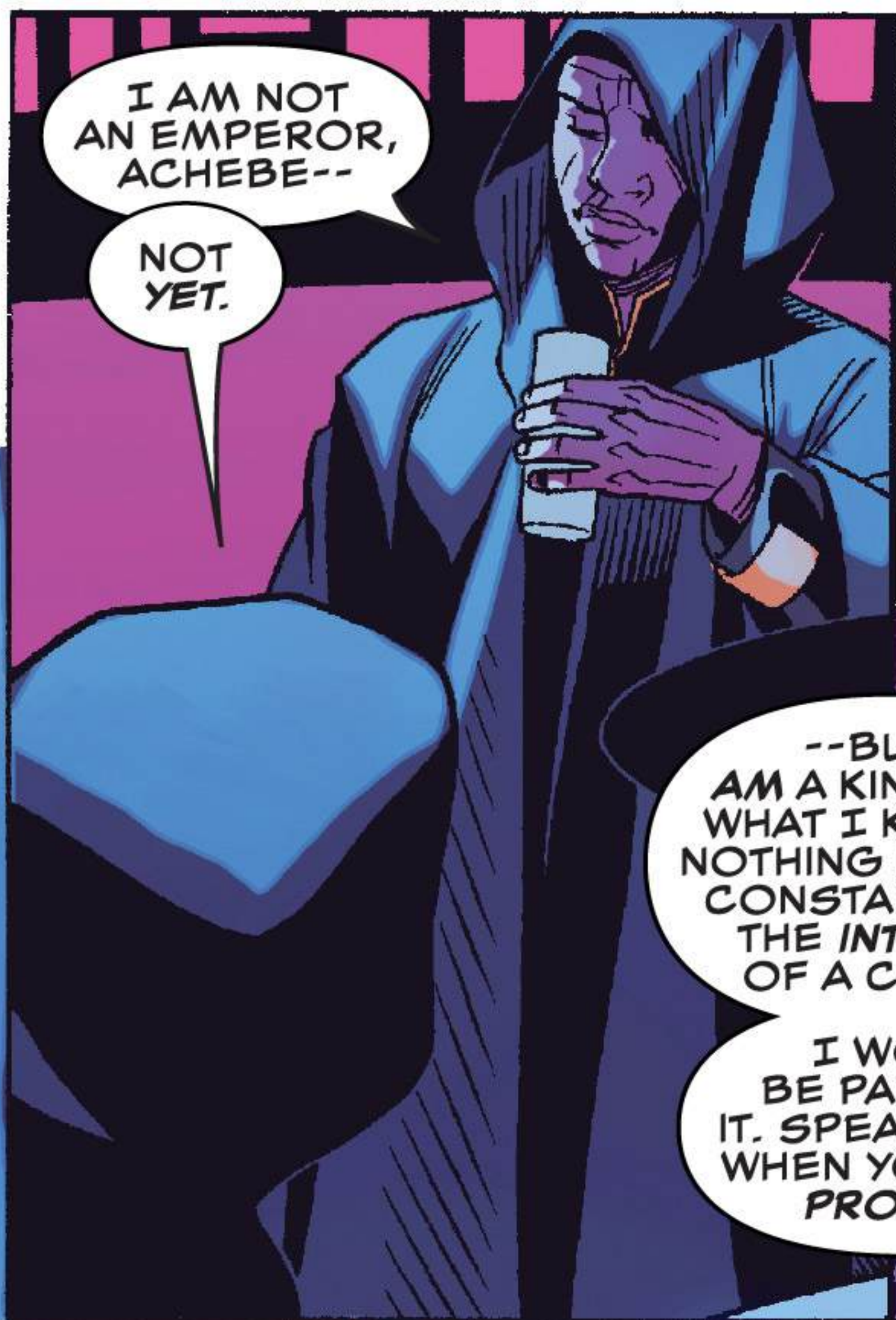
IT IS NOT A MATTER OF PROOF. IT IS MATTER OF HIS NATURE. IT IS WHO HE IS, DAMISA-SARKI.

HE WILL BETRAY YOU. HE MUST. THE NAME IS IMMATERIAL. HIS NATURE IS NOT.



I AM NOT AN EMPEROR, ACHEBE--

NOT YET.



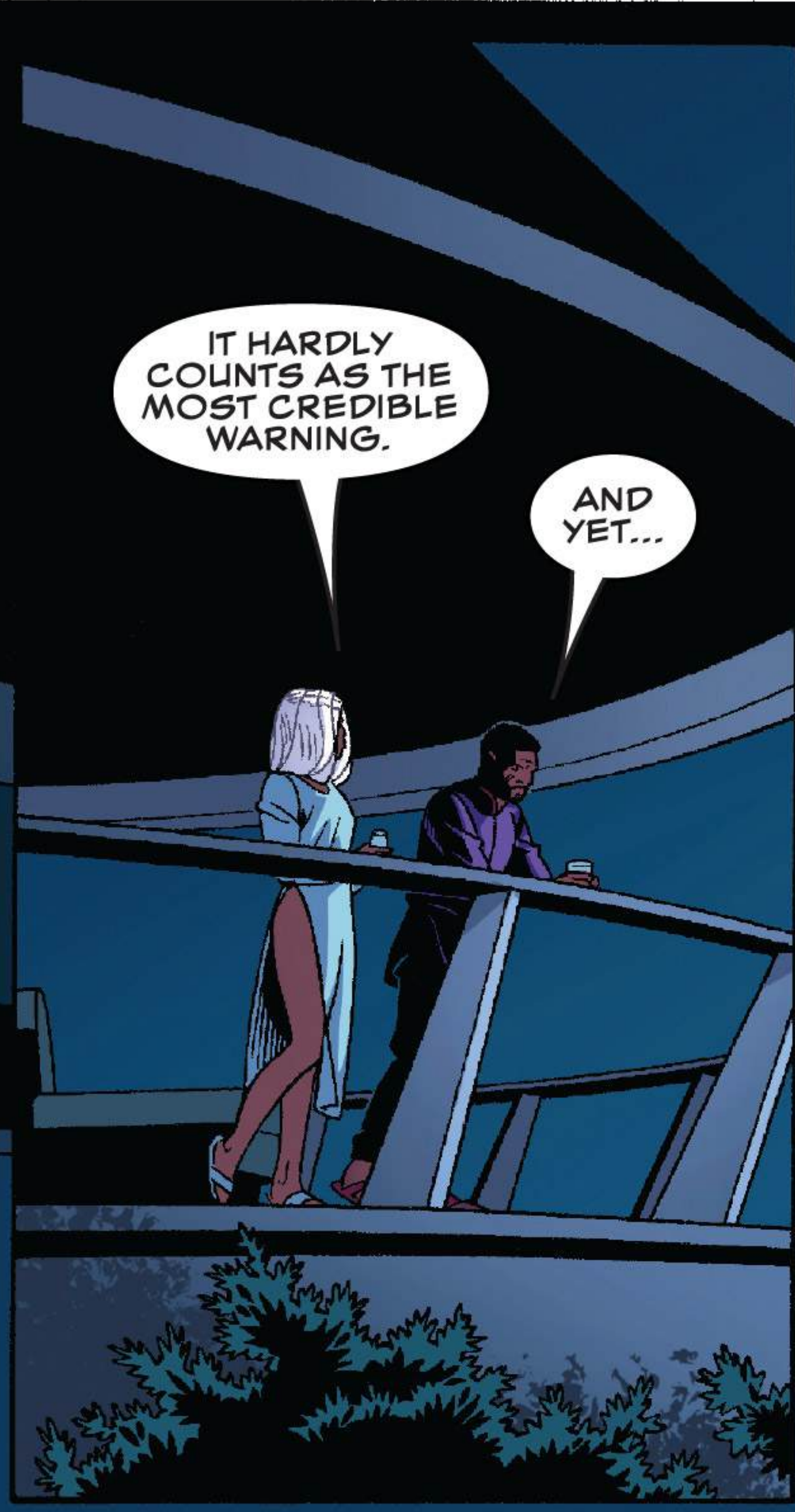
--BUT I AM A KING. AND WHAT I KNOW IS NOTHING IS MORE CONSTANT THAN THE INTRIGUE OF A COURT.

I WON'T BE PARTY TO IT. SPEAK TO ME WHEN YOU HAVE PROOF--



--OR DON'T BOTHER SPEAKING TO ME AT ALL.





IT HARDLY COUNTS AS THE MOST CREDIBLE WARNING.

AND YET...

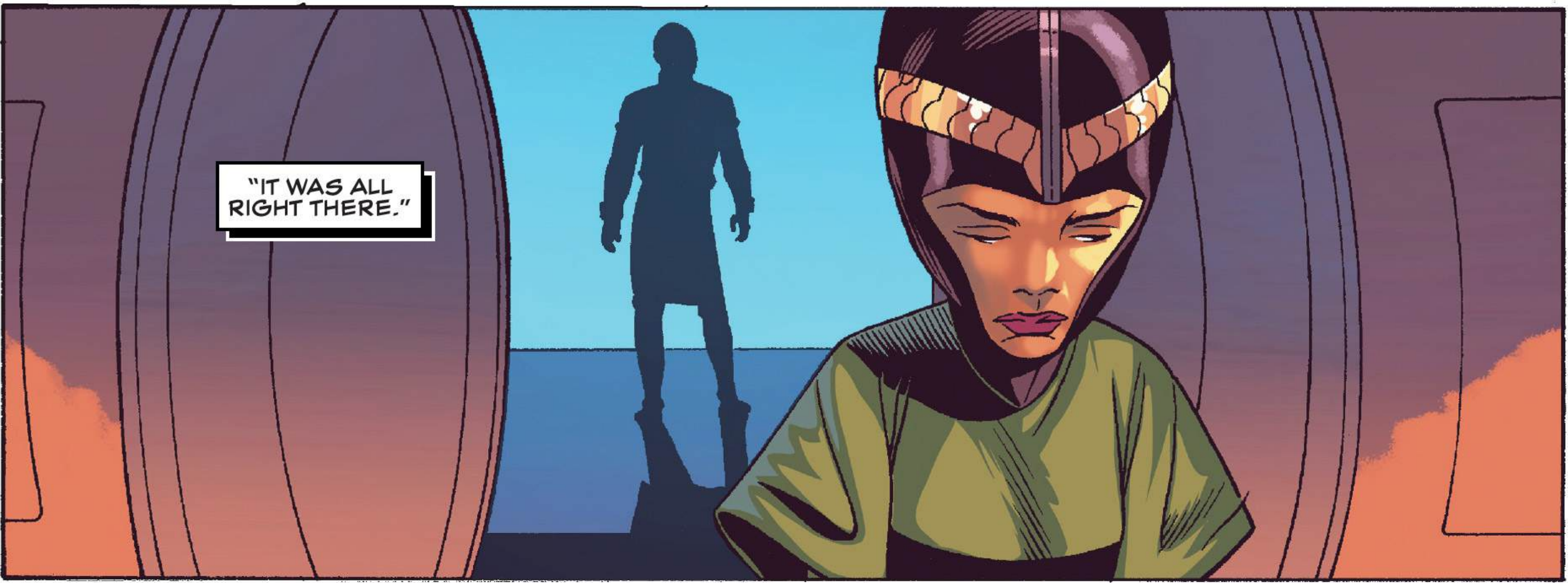


AND YET YOU ARE NOT ONLY THE MOST BRILLIANT MAN I'VE EVER MET, YOU ARE ALSO THE MOST STRATEGIC.

SO THEN WHY, T'CHALLA? WHY DID YOU NOT SEE WHAT N'JADAKA WAS? WHAT THE EMPIRE WAS?



I HAVE NO ANSWER THAT WILL SUFFICE.

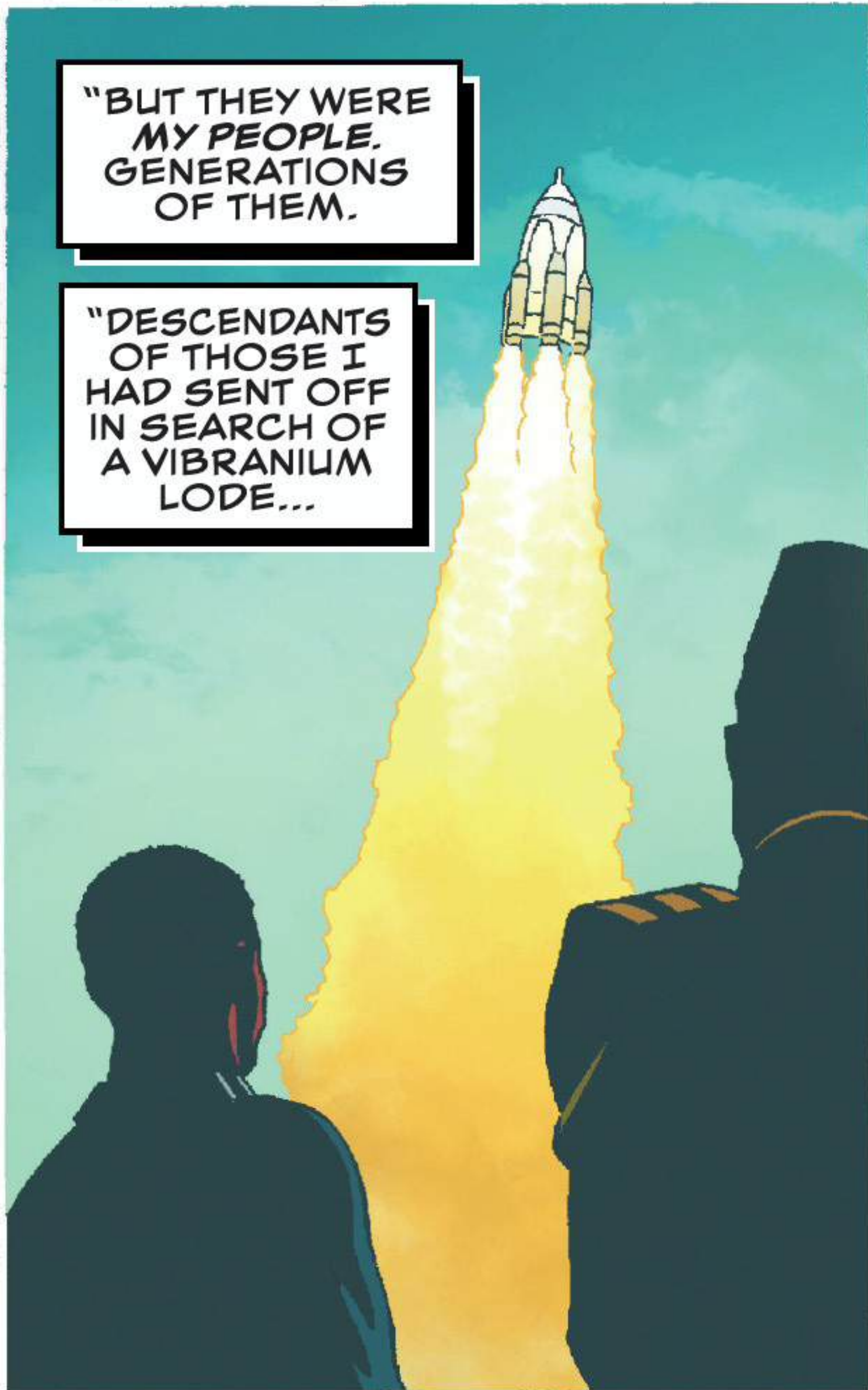


"IT WAS ALL RIGHT THERE."



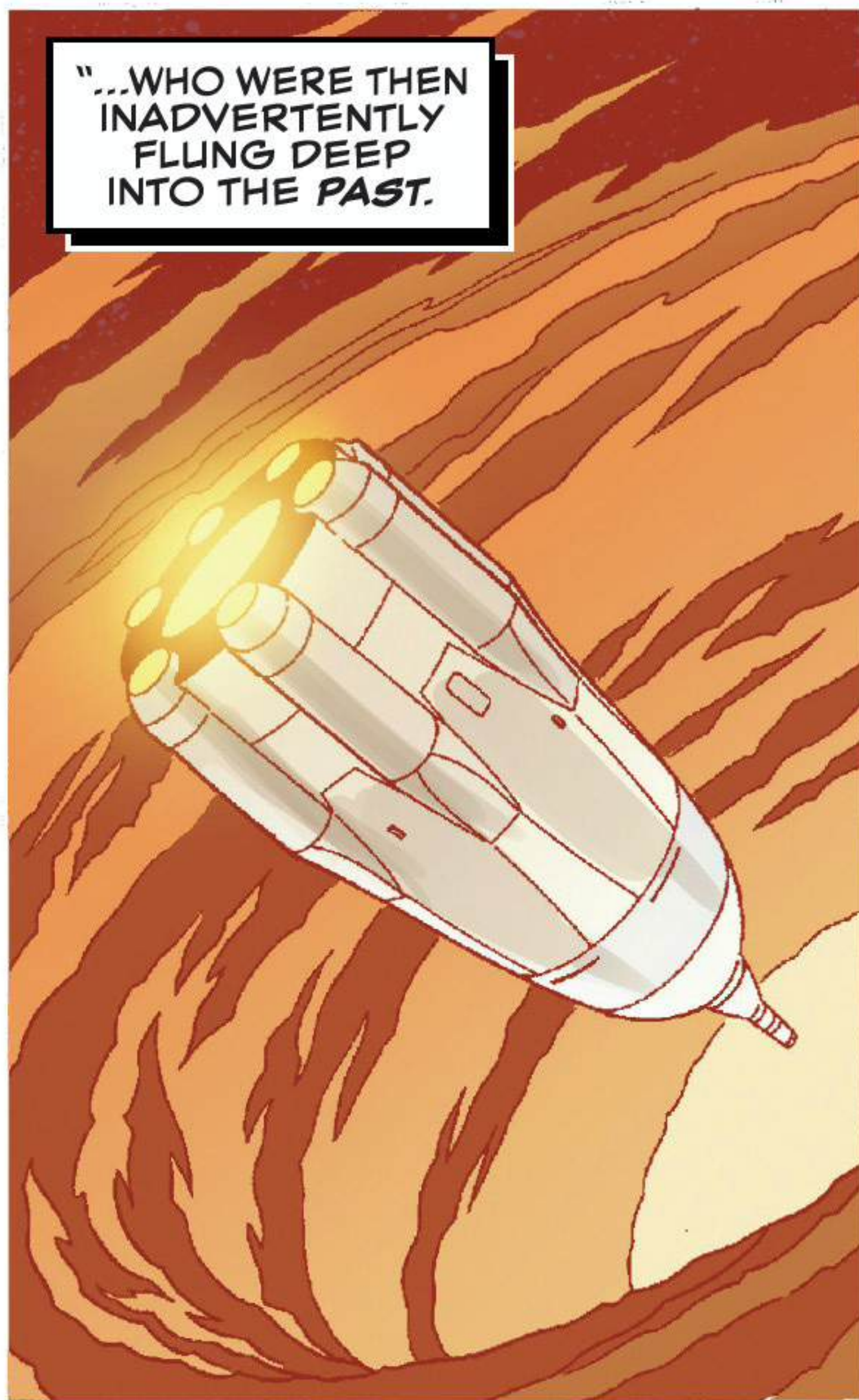
I KNEW WHERE MIRACLES CAME FROM--THAT THEY WERE NOT BORN OF *BLESSINGS*, BUT OF *BLOOD*.

AND THERE WAS BLOOD ON THE EMPIRE'S MANTLE.



"BUT THEY WERE
MY PEOPLE.
GENERATIONS
OF THEM."

"DESCENDANTS
OF THOSE I
HAD SENT OFF
IN SEARCH OF
A VIBRANIUM
LODE..."



"...WHO WERE THEN
INADVERTENTLY
FLUNG DEEP
INTO THE PAST."



"STRANDED. ALONE
IN SOME DISTANT
CORNER OF THIS
UNIVERSE."



BUT
THEY WERE
WAKANDAN.

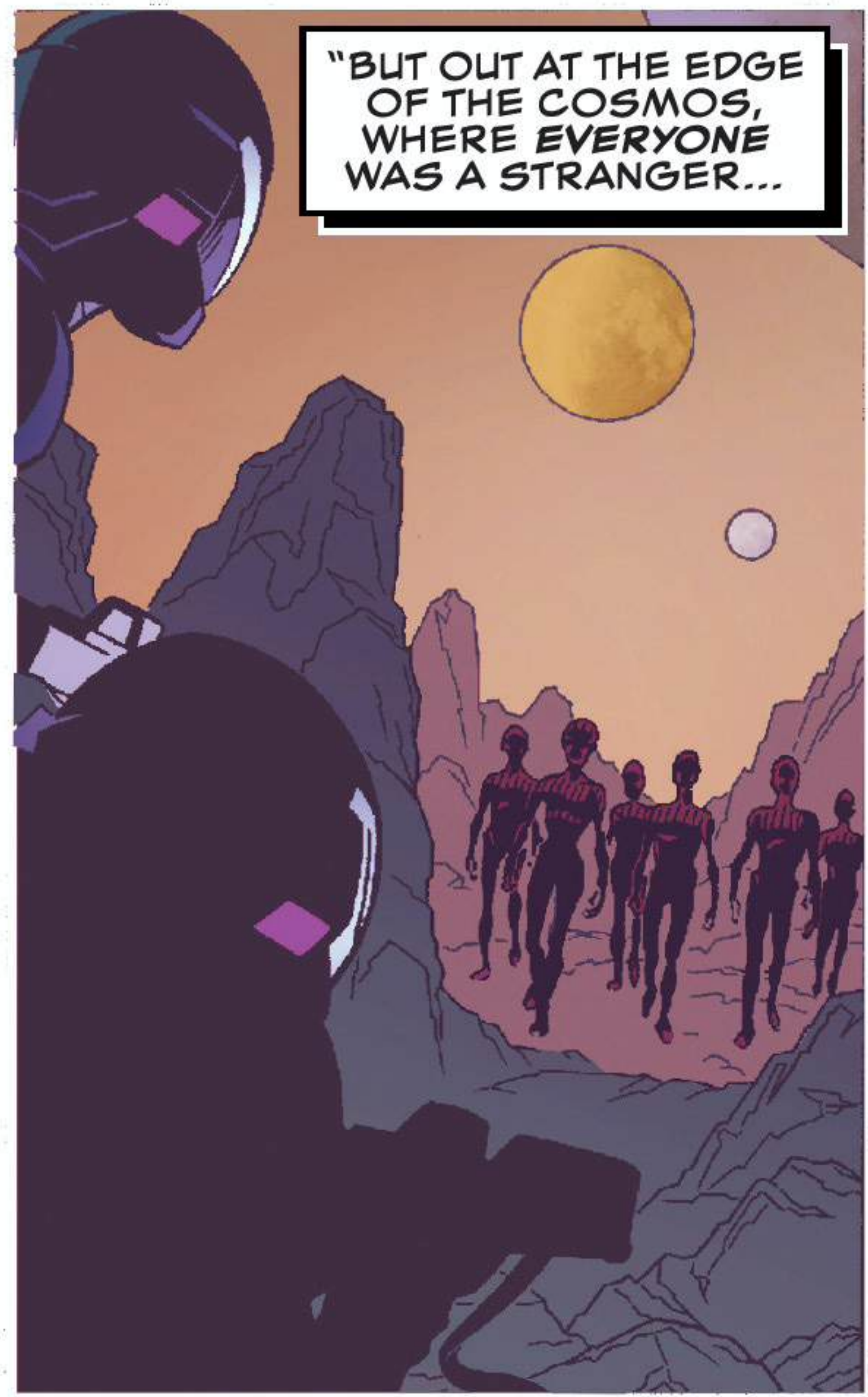


YES...
WAKANDAN.

THEY HAD
OUR SCIENCE,
OUR IDEALS,
OUR ETHICS.



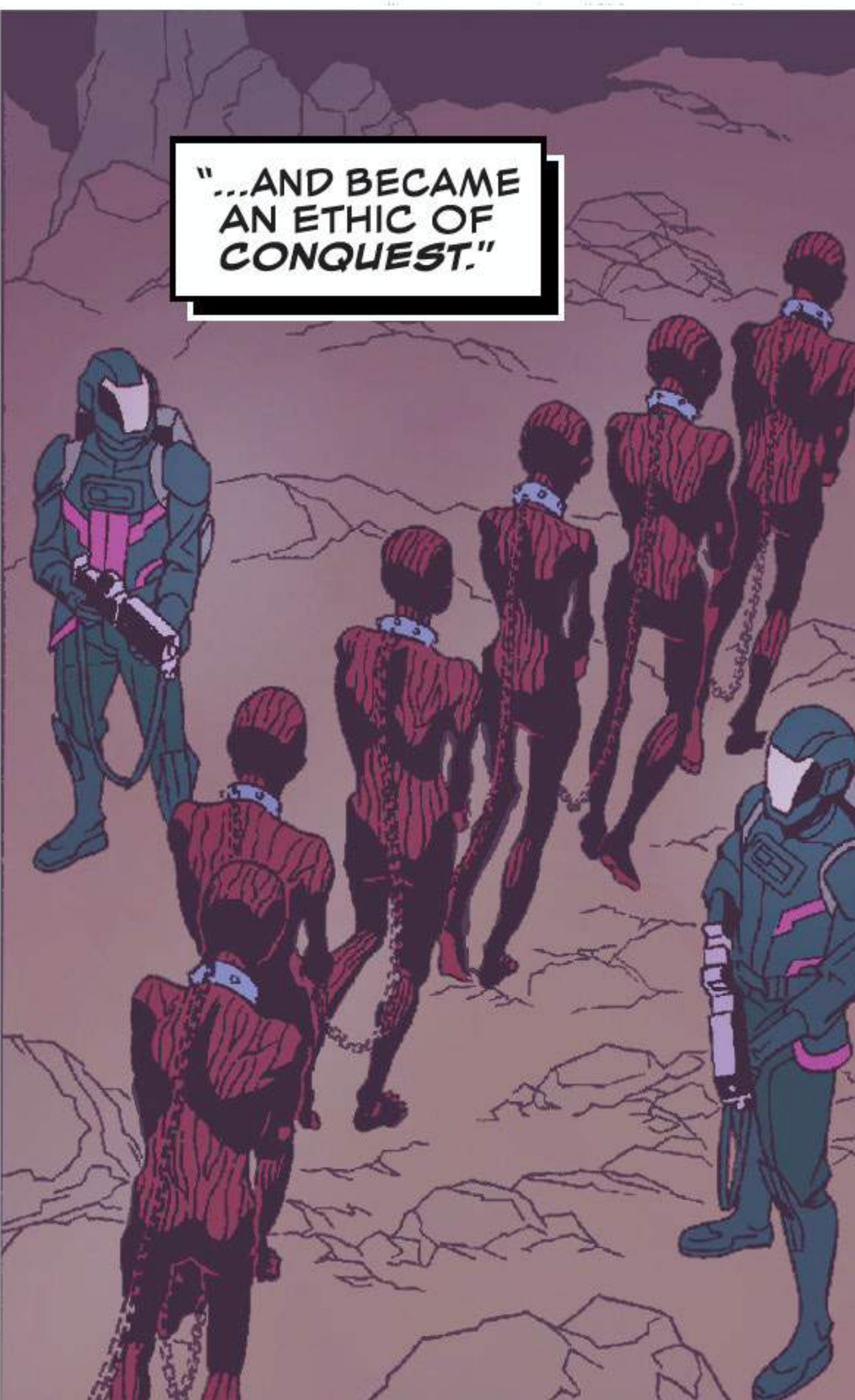
"BEWARE
THE STRANGER."
"ATTACK ONLY
IN SELF-
DEFENSE."



"BUT OUT AT THE EDGE
OF THE COSMOS,
WHERE EVERYONE
WAS A STRANGER..."

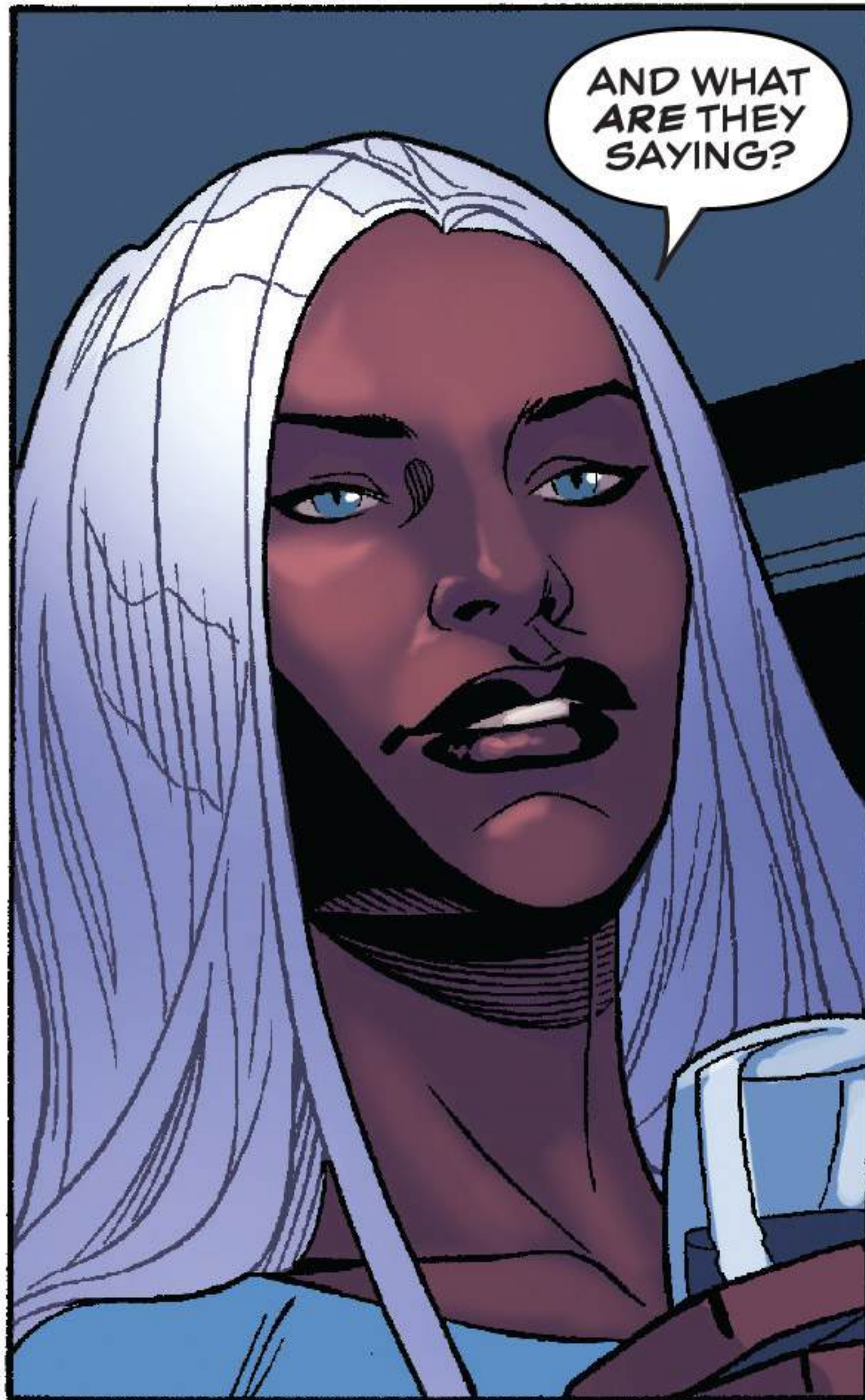
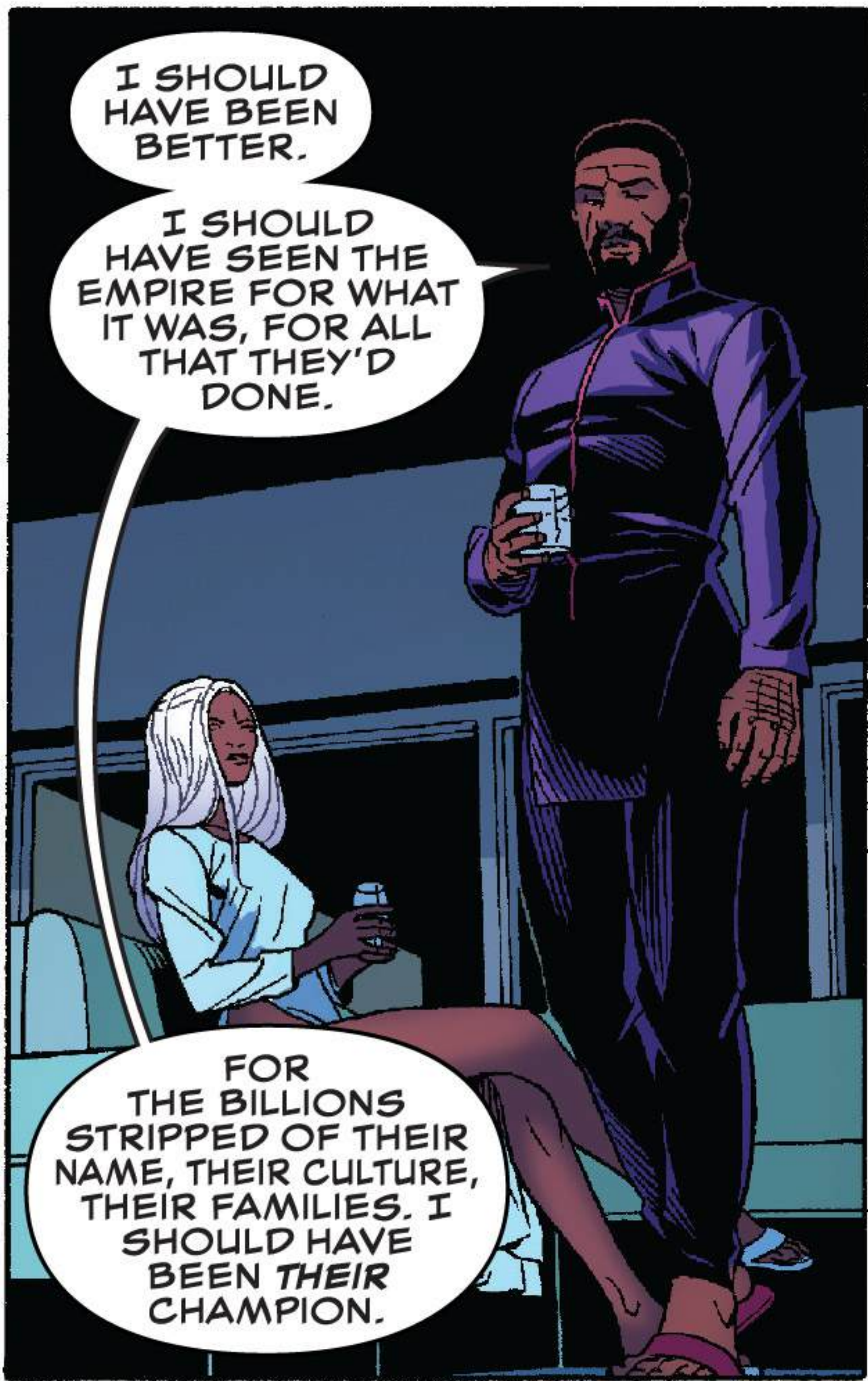


"...THE ETHIC OF
SELF-DEFENSE
EVOLVED..."



"...AND BECAME
AN ETHIC OF
CONQUEST."







I KNOW THAT I **OPPOSE** IT IN ALL FORMS. AND I KNOW THAT IT IS WRONG.



YES. OF COURSE. BUT WHY WOULD YOU THINK YOU WOULD RECOGNIZE A SOCIETY BUILT ON IT?



I RECALL MY EARLIEST DAYS IN AMERICA, MY TRIPS TO HARLEM.

I REMEMBER THE ANGER ON ALL THE FACES, AND NOT UNDERSTANDING WHY. IT WAS AMERICA, RIGHT? LAND OF OPPORTUNITY?

THEY'D BEEN THERE SO LONG. AND WHAT HAD THEY MADE OF IT?



WHAT DID I KNOW OF SLAVERY? WHAT DID I KNOW OF PERSECUTION?



WHAT DO YOU MEAN? GENOSHA? SENTINELS? KRAKOA?

YOU KNEW EVERYTHING ABOUT IT.

YOU ARE A MUTANT.

YES. PRECISELY. I WAS A MUTANT. I KNEW EVERYTHING ABOUT IT. THAT IS EXACTLY WHAT I THOUGHT.



BUT IT WAS NOT ENOUGH.



WHAT I KNOW NOW IS THAT EMPIRES BUILT ON SLAVERY ARE VERY GOOD AT CONCEALING THIS FACT.

THAT THE CONCEALING, THE LIE, IS PART OF THE ENSLAVING.



AND THERE I WAS IN A COUNTRY THAT HAD FOUR HUNDRED YEARS TO PERFECT THAT LIE.

HOW MANY YEARS DID THE EMPIRE HAVE?

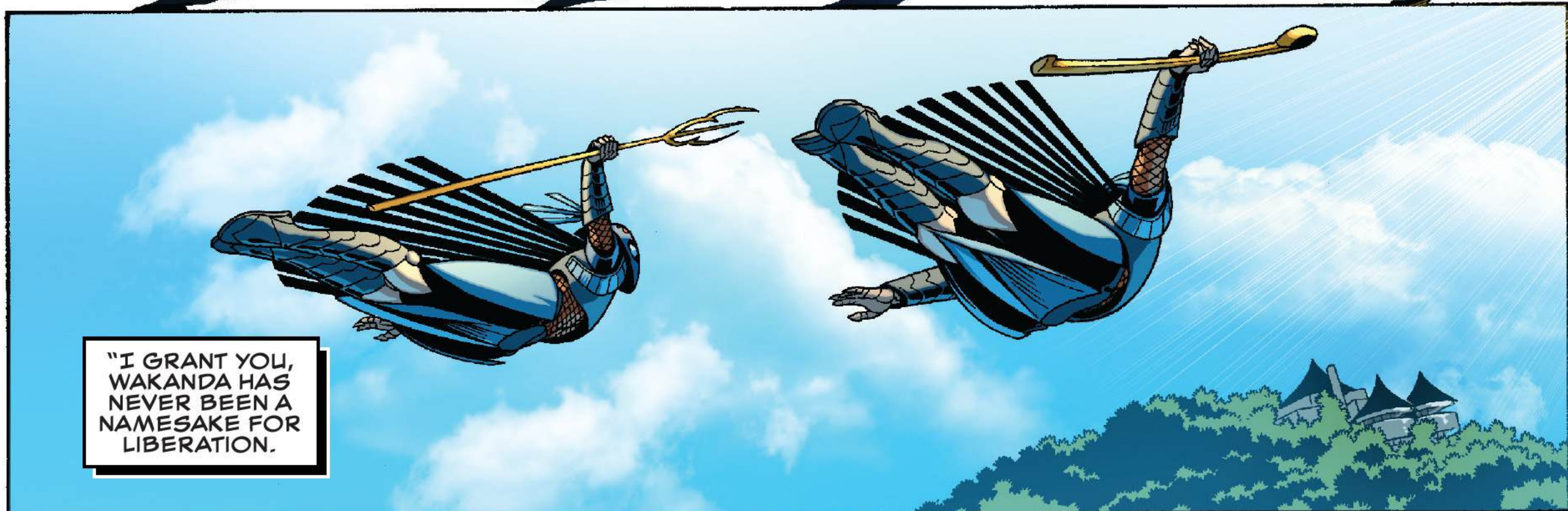


TWO THOUSAND.

TWO THOUSAND YEARS, BELOVED.



"THIS IS
PERSONAL."



"I GRANT YOU,
WAKANDA HAS
NEVER BEEN A
NAMESAKE FOR
LIBERATION."



"BUT WHATEVER
WE HAVE BEEN..."



"IT IS NOT
CONQUEST.
IT IS NOT
DEATH."



"IT IS NOT
SLAVERY."



"AND SO THIS
EMPIRE THAT
BEARS OUR
NAME..."

"...THIS EMPIRE
THAT INSULTS
ALL OF MY
FATHERS..."



...THIS
EMPIRE MUST
FALL.

NEXT:
BOOK 4: WAKANDA UNBOUND!



Carlos Pacheco, Rafael Fonteriz & Marcio Menyz

13 VARIANT



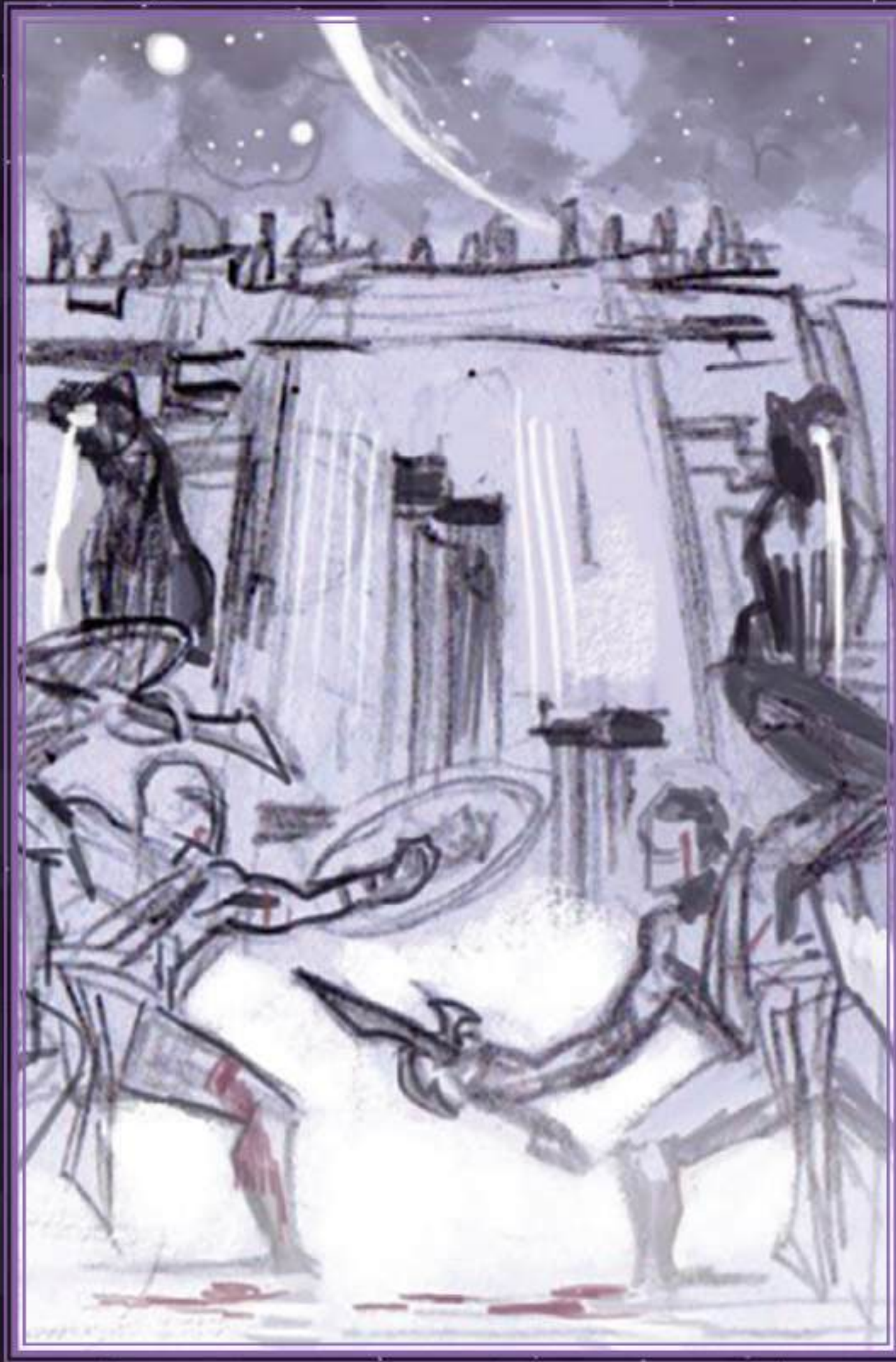
David Mack
13 MARVELS 25TH TRIBUTE VARIANT



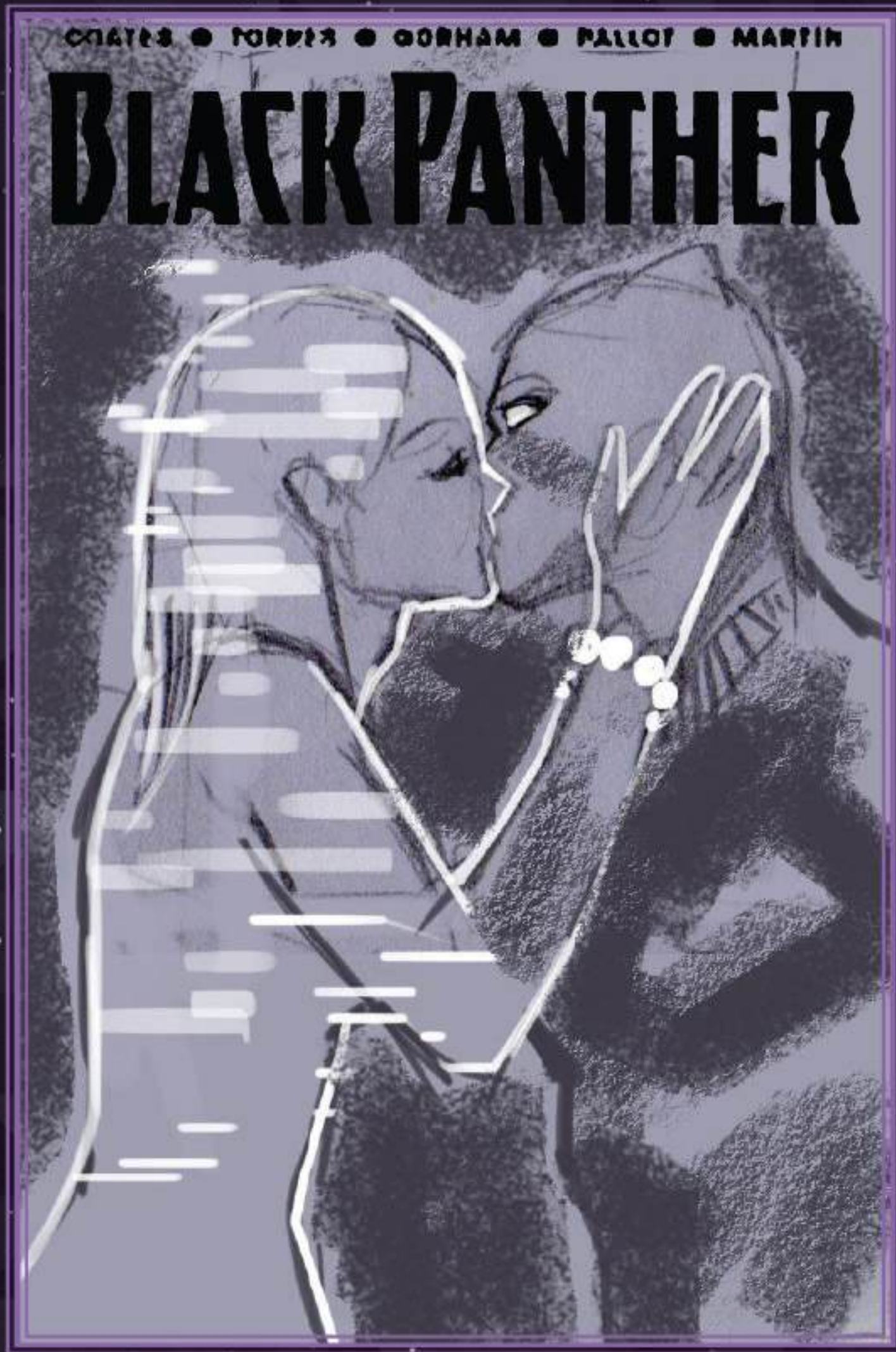
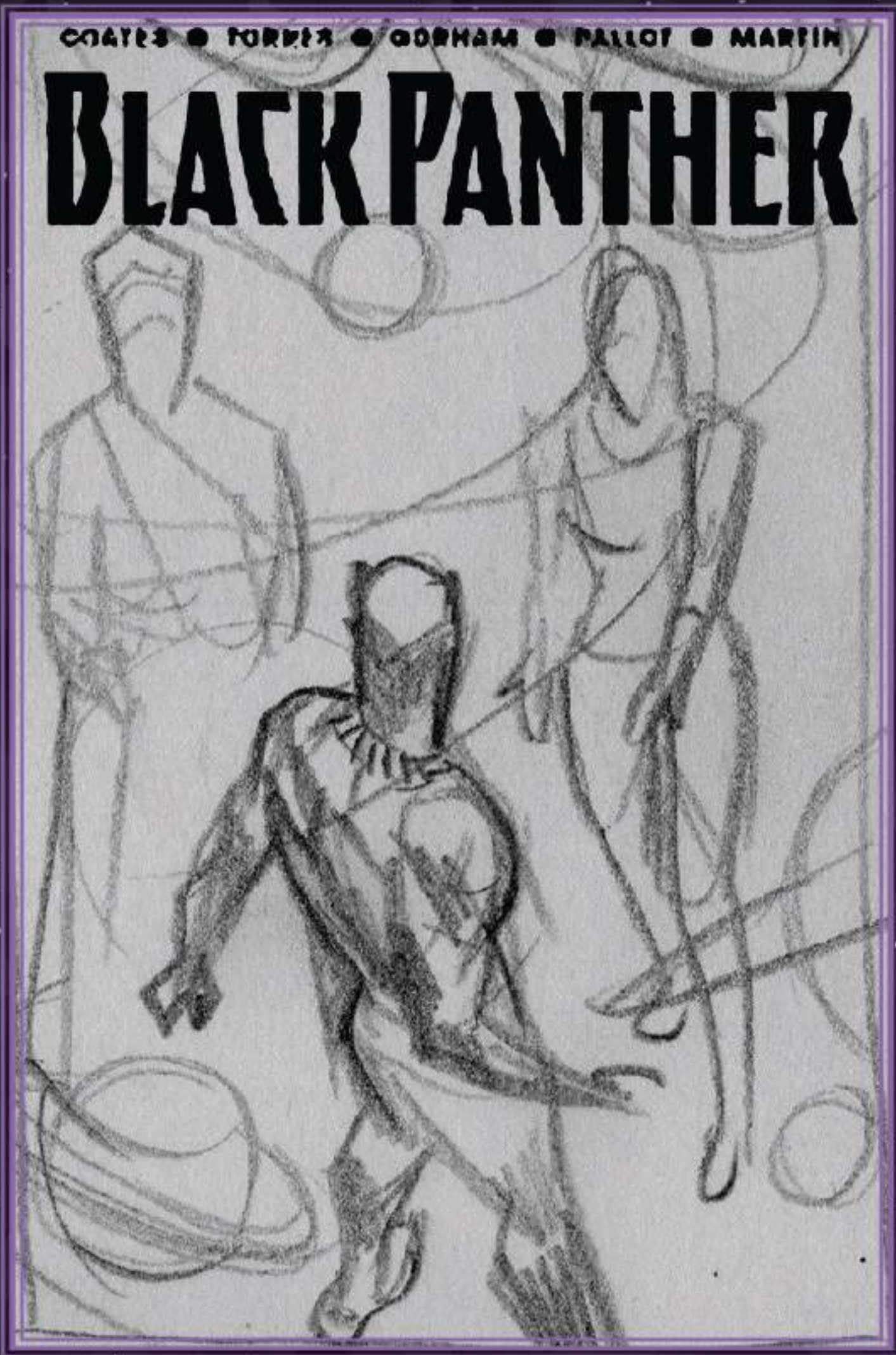
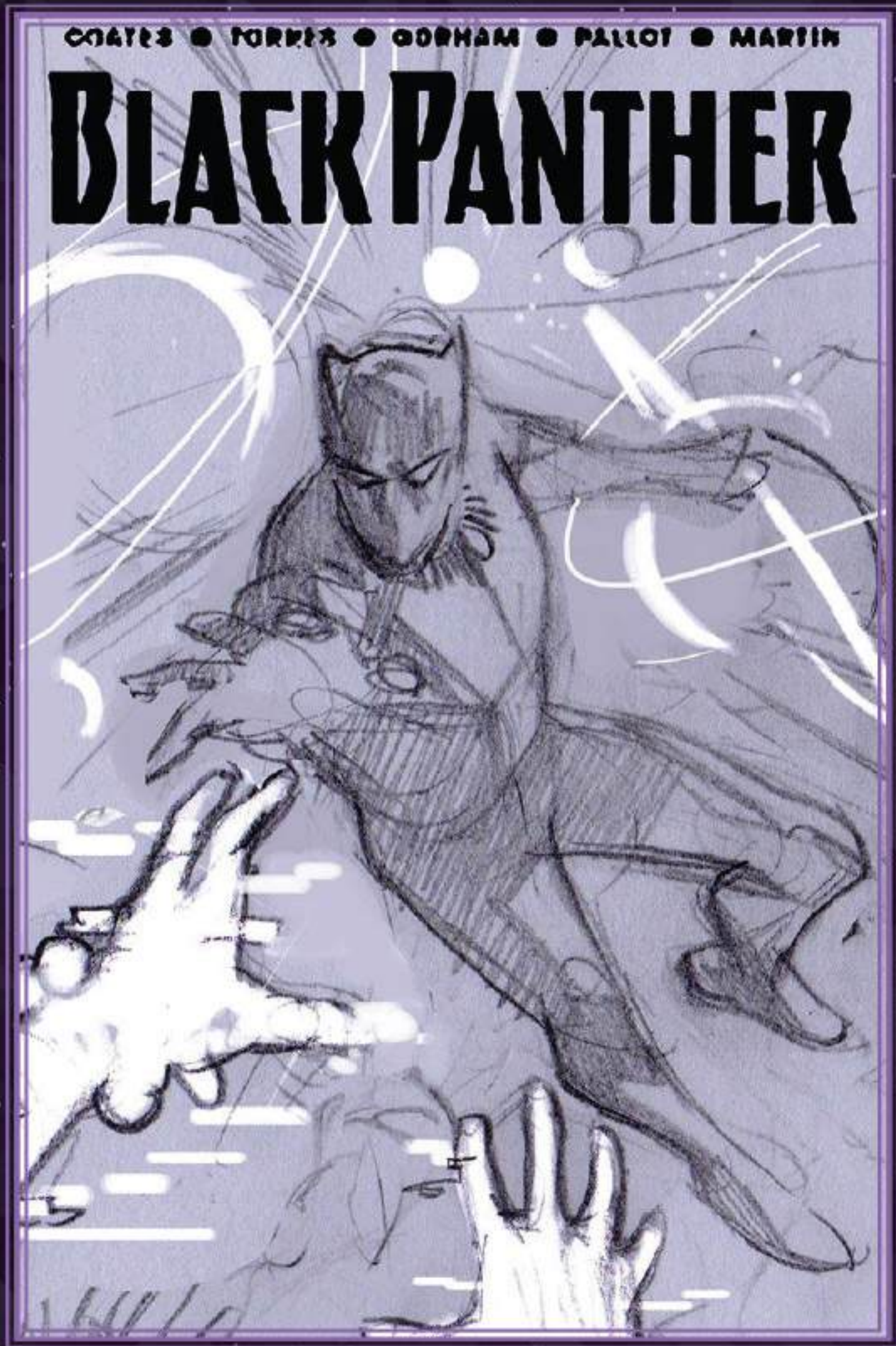
Ryan Brown
14 CARNAGE-IZED VARIANT



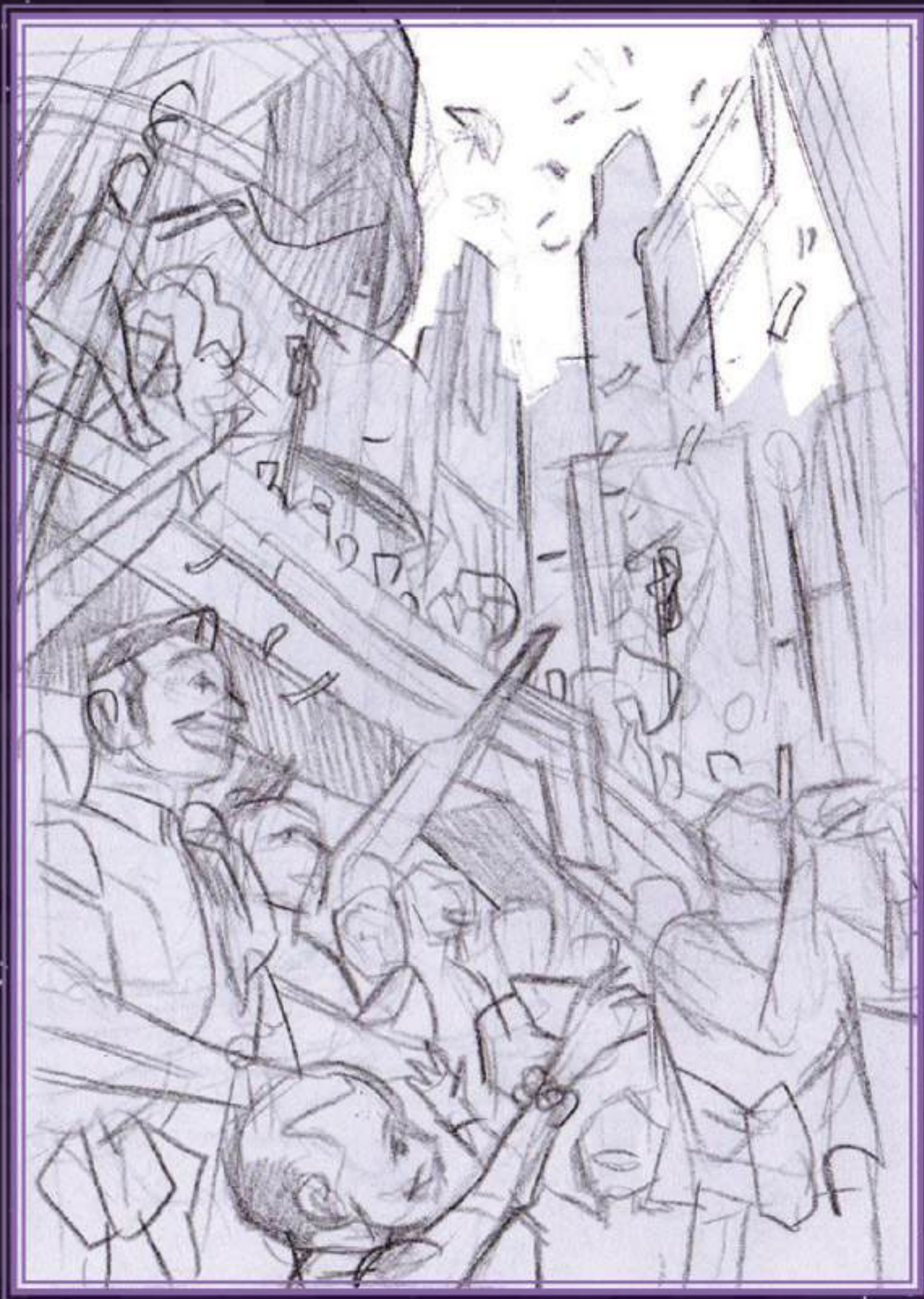
Ryan Benjamin & Rain Beredo
15 BRING ON THE BAD GUYS VARIANT



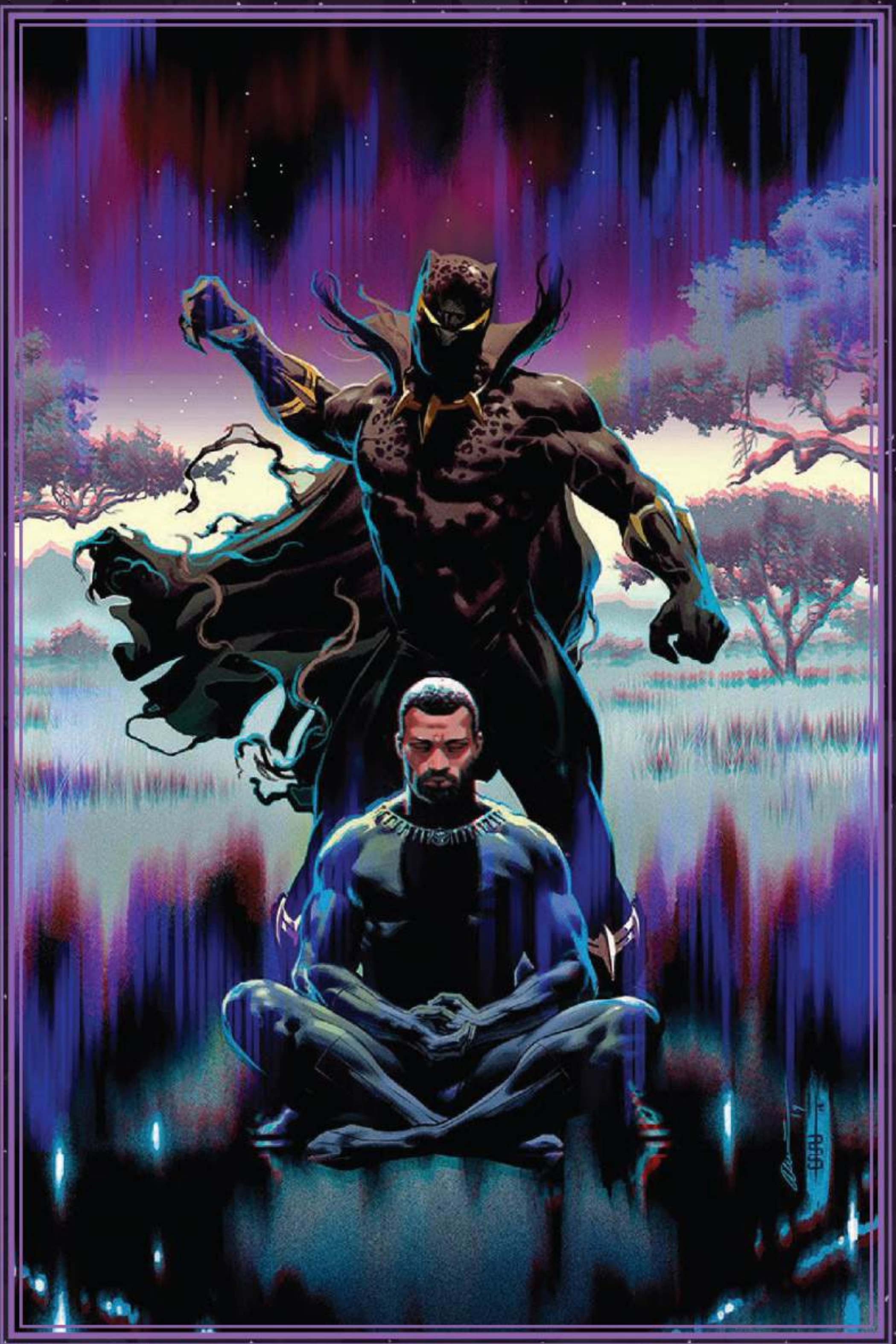
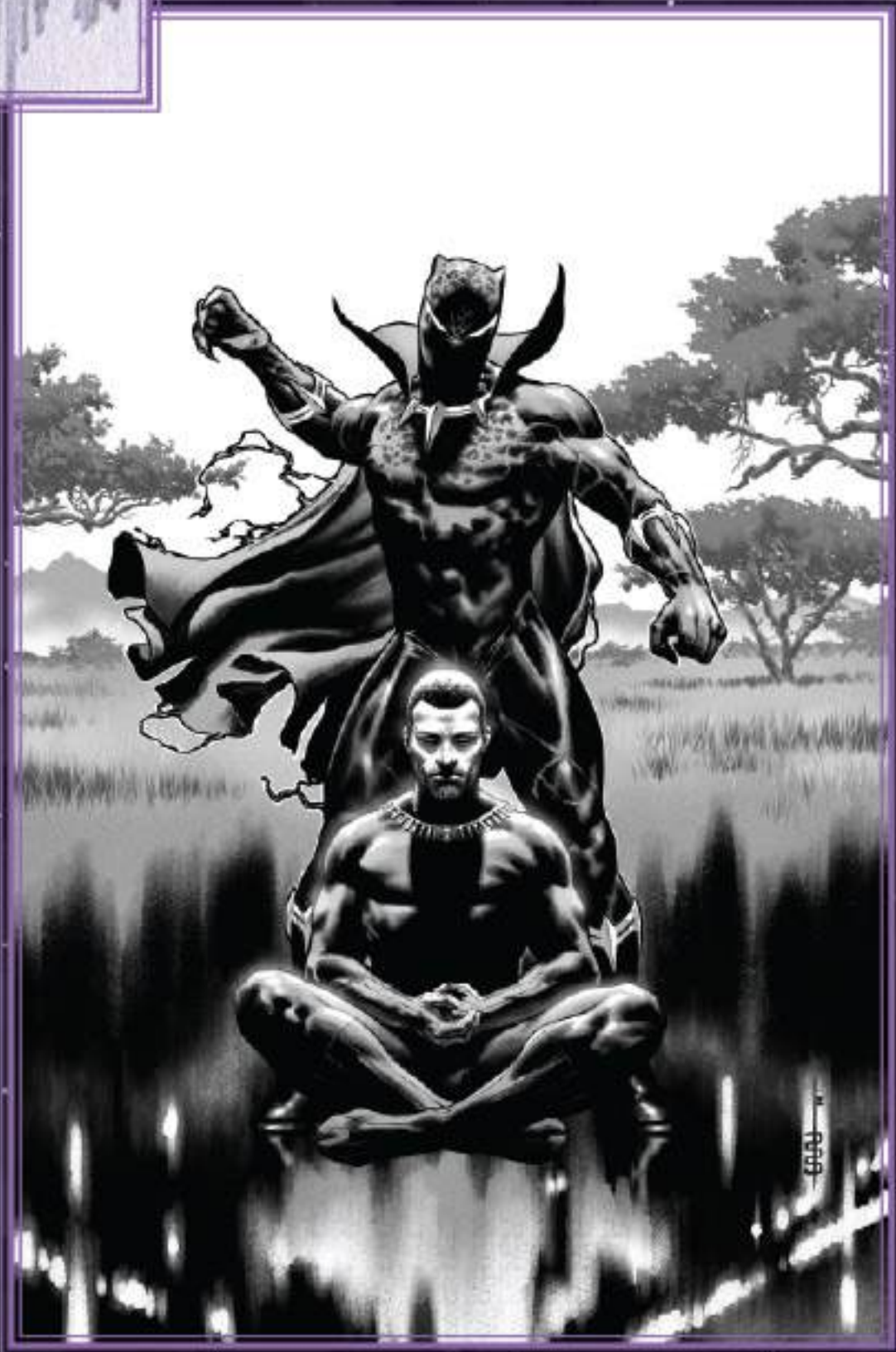
Daniel Acuña
13 COVER SKETCHES



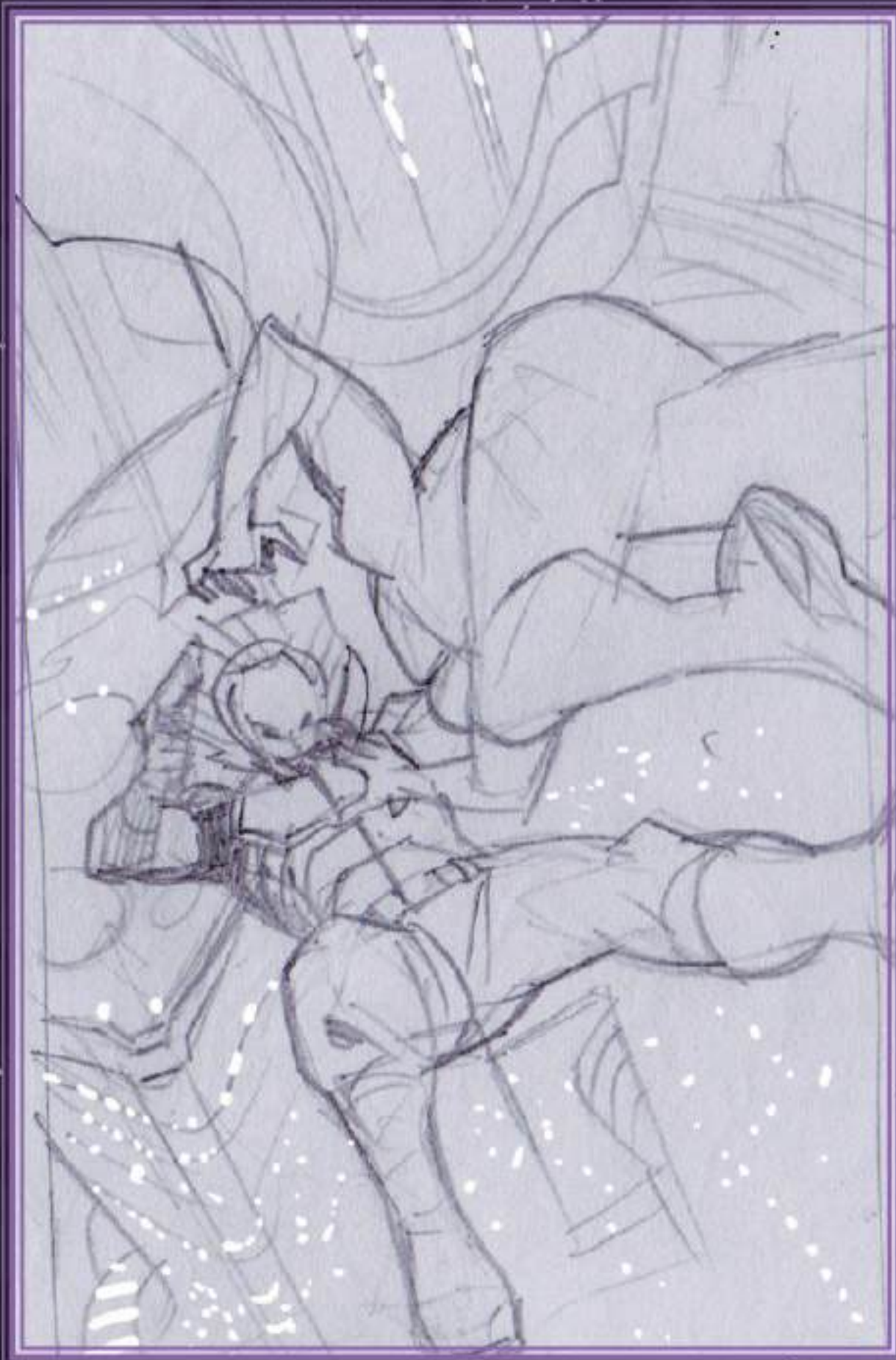
Daniel Acuña
14 COVER SKETCHES



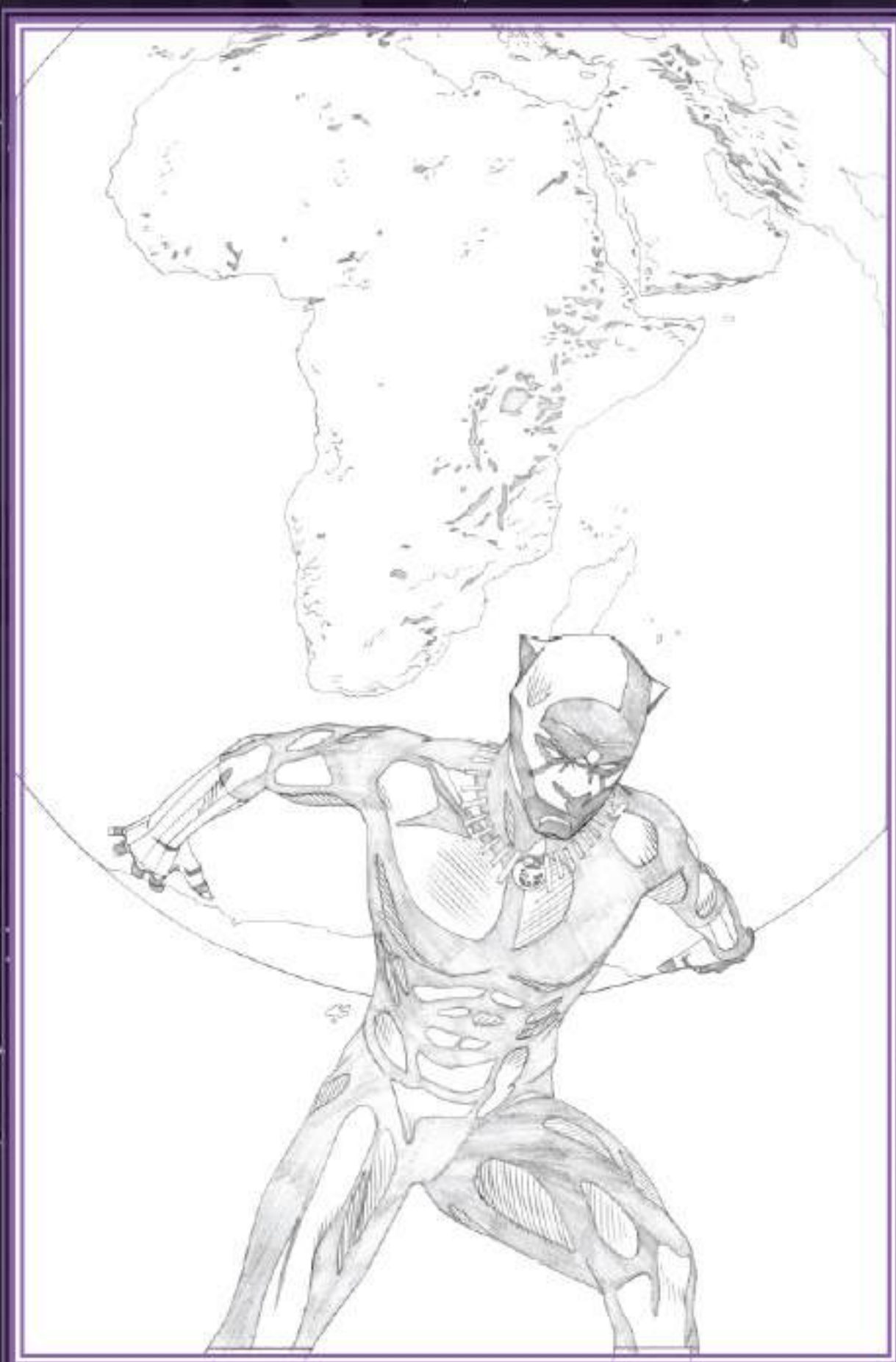
Daniel Acuña
15 COVER SKETCHES



PENCILS & COLORS Daniel Acuña INKS CAFU
16 COVER PROCESS



Daniel Acuña
17 COVER SKETCHES



Daniel Acuña
18 COVER PENCILS

“Black Panther has never felt so big in scope as war wages in the cosmos.”

— AiPT!

HAS T'CHALLA LEARNED WHAT IT MEANS TO BE KING *JUST IN TIME TO LOSE HIS KINGDOM?*

RECENTLY, THE BLACK PANTHER DISAPPEARED ON A MISSION INTO DEEP SPACE, leaving behind his country, his family and the woman he loves. Now, at last, find out what Wakanda has done without its king! And light-years away, as the race against Emperor N'Jadaka's expansion continues, the goddess Bast makes a dramatic move and T'Challa reaches out for the life he left behind! The rebel Maroons are looking to turn the tide, but when N'Jadaka comes for his revenge, will T'Challa's plan be enough to free those the Empire has enslaved and open his pathway home? And even if he can, can he truly rid himself of the Intergalactic Empire and its despotic ruler?



COLLECTING **BLACK PANTHER (2018) #13-18** —

BY TA-NEHISI COATES, DANIEL ACUÑA, CHRIS SPROUSE, KARL STORY AND MARCIO MENYZ.



MARVEL

Black Panther Book 8: The Intergalactic Empire Of Wakanda Part Three <https://www.comixology.com/Black-Panther-Book-8-The-Intergalactic-Empire-Of-Wakanda-Part-Three/digital-comic/806674> Collects Black Panther (2018) #13-18. Has T'Challa learned what it means to be king just in time to lose his kingdom? Weeks ago, the Black Panther disappeared on a mission into deep space, leaving behind his country, his family and the woman he loves. Now, at last, find out what Wakanda Prime has done without its king! And light-years away, as the race against Emperor N'Jadaka's expansion continues, the goddess Bast makes a dramatic move and T'Challa reaches out for the life he left behind! The Maroons are looking to turn the tide, but when N'Jadaka comes for his revenge, will T'Challa's plan be enough to free those the Empire has enslaved and open his pathway home? And even if he can, can he truly rid himself of the Intergalactic Empire and its despotic ruler? Scraped metadata from Comixology [CMXDB806674], [RELDATE:2020-01-08] Marvel Superhero 138 en

